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Topic Dashboard Starter Edition User's Guide

Explorer Version 1.0.1

Graham Alderson & Phil Blake

Contents

Change History 4
Version 1.0.1 4
Introduction 5
Install 6
Minimum Requirements 6
Supported Environments 6
Install GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.0.x 6
Install GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x 14
Upgrade 18
Upgrade GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.0.x 18
Upgrade GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x 25
Uninstall 30
Uninstall GSS Topic Dashboard from MQ Explorer 7.0.x 30
Uninstall GSS Topic Dashboard from MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x 31
Starting GSS Topic Dashboard 34
Using GSS Topic Dashboard 34
Changing Settings 35
Menus 36
File → GSS trace → Options... 36
File → GSS trace → Start 36
File → GSS trace → Stop 36
Window → Show View → GSS Publisher 36
Window → Show View → GSS Subscriber 36
Window → Show View → Error Log 36
Window → Reset Perspective 36
Window → Navigation → Show View Menu 36
Window → Navigation → Maximize Active View or Editor 37
Window → Navigation → Minimize Active View or Editor 37
Window → Navigation → Next View 37
Window → Navigation → Previous View 37
Help → Help Contents 37
Help → Search 37
Help → Dynamic Help 37

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Help → Contact us 37
Help → About GSS Topic Dashboard 37
Trademarks 39

Change History

Version 1.0.1

Grail Software Solutions (GSS) Topic Dashboard Starter Edition v1.0.1 has the following enhancements:

1. The workbench window toolbar has been removed to increase the visibility of the dashboard.

2. Added new menu option 'Contact Us...' on the Help menu.

   This will launch the system default browser and show the GSS Contact Us web page.

Instructions for upgrading from v1.0.0 can be found in chapter Upgrade.

Introduction

This document describes the Explorer version of Grail Software Solutions (GSS) Topic Dashboard Starter Edition. This version consists of an Eclipse™ feature to be installed in the IBM® WebSphere® MQ Explorer. There is another (client) version of GSS Topic Dashboard which can be installed in its own Eclipse™ alongside a WebSphere® MQ Client and that is described in another document.

GSS Topic Dashboard adds a new context menu contribution to all non-system local topics in the Topics content page. One or more GSS Topic Dashboards can be launched simultaneously.

GSS Topic Dashboard allows messages to be published (PUB) on a topic and subscribers to receive (GET) publications on the same topic. Initially each GSS Topic Dashboard has one publisher and four subscribers. Further subscribers can be started. Each action has its own view on the dashboard.

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Install

Minimum Requirements

Minimum requirements to use GSS Topic Dashboard Explorer version is

- Windows 7®
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ Server 7.0.1.8
  or
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ SupportPac MS0T 7.0.1.8 from
  www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#3

Supported Environments

There are many environments that the GSS Topic Dashboard Explorer version could potentially be run in – various 7.x versions of the IBM® WebSphere® MQ Server and 7.x versions of IBM® WebSphere® MQ SupportPac MS0T and the operating systems they both support.

As a small company with limited time and resources, at present we have only tested the GSS Topic Dashboard Explorer version in the following environments:

- Windows 7® SP1
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ Server 7.0.1.8, 7.1.0.0 and 7.5.0.0
- IBM® WebSphere® MQ SupportPac MS0T 7.0.1.8 and 7.1.0.0
- connecting to a queue manager on IBM® WebSphere® MQ 7.0.1.8, 7.1.0.0 and 7.5.0.0 also on Windows 7 SP1

While we would expect the GSS Topic Dashboard Explorer version to install and run correctly in other environments, for example on other versions of Windows® or on the various Linux® distributions, as they are currently untested we would not be able to guarantee this is the case.

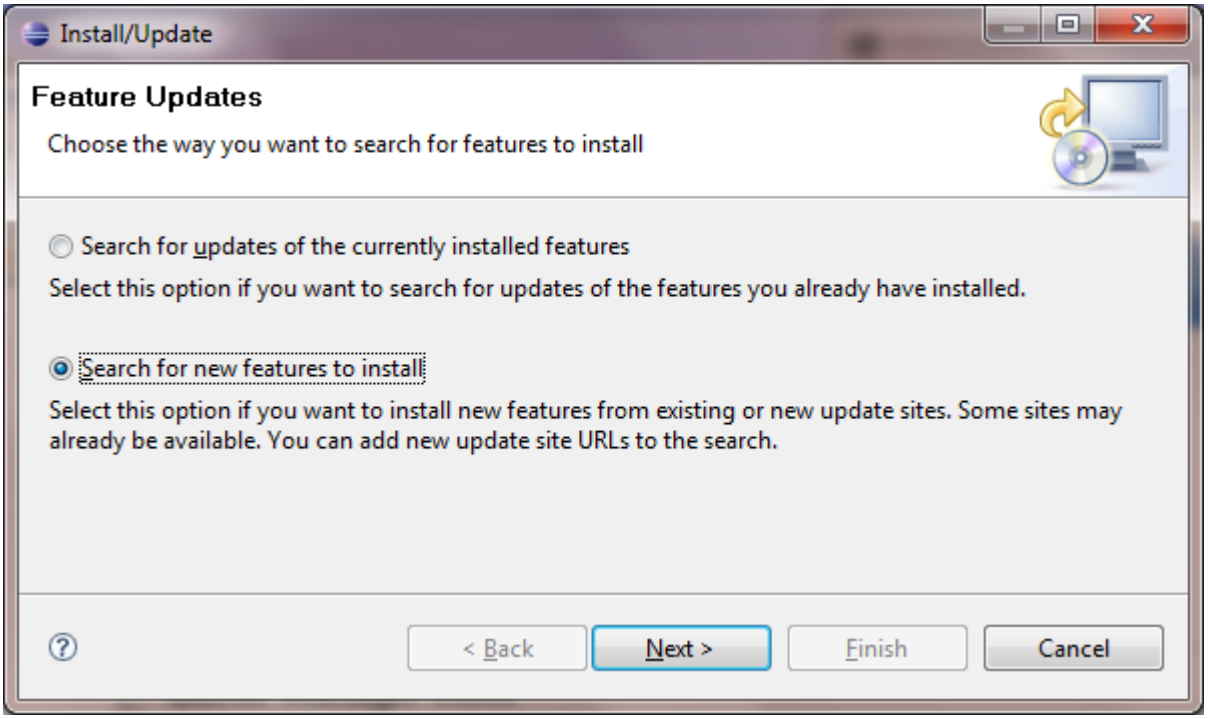
Install GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.0.x

The file called ms0u_explorer_101.zip can be downloaded as part of the **MS0U** SupportPac from www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#4. Unzip the file into a temporary location, for example, c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1

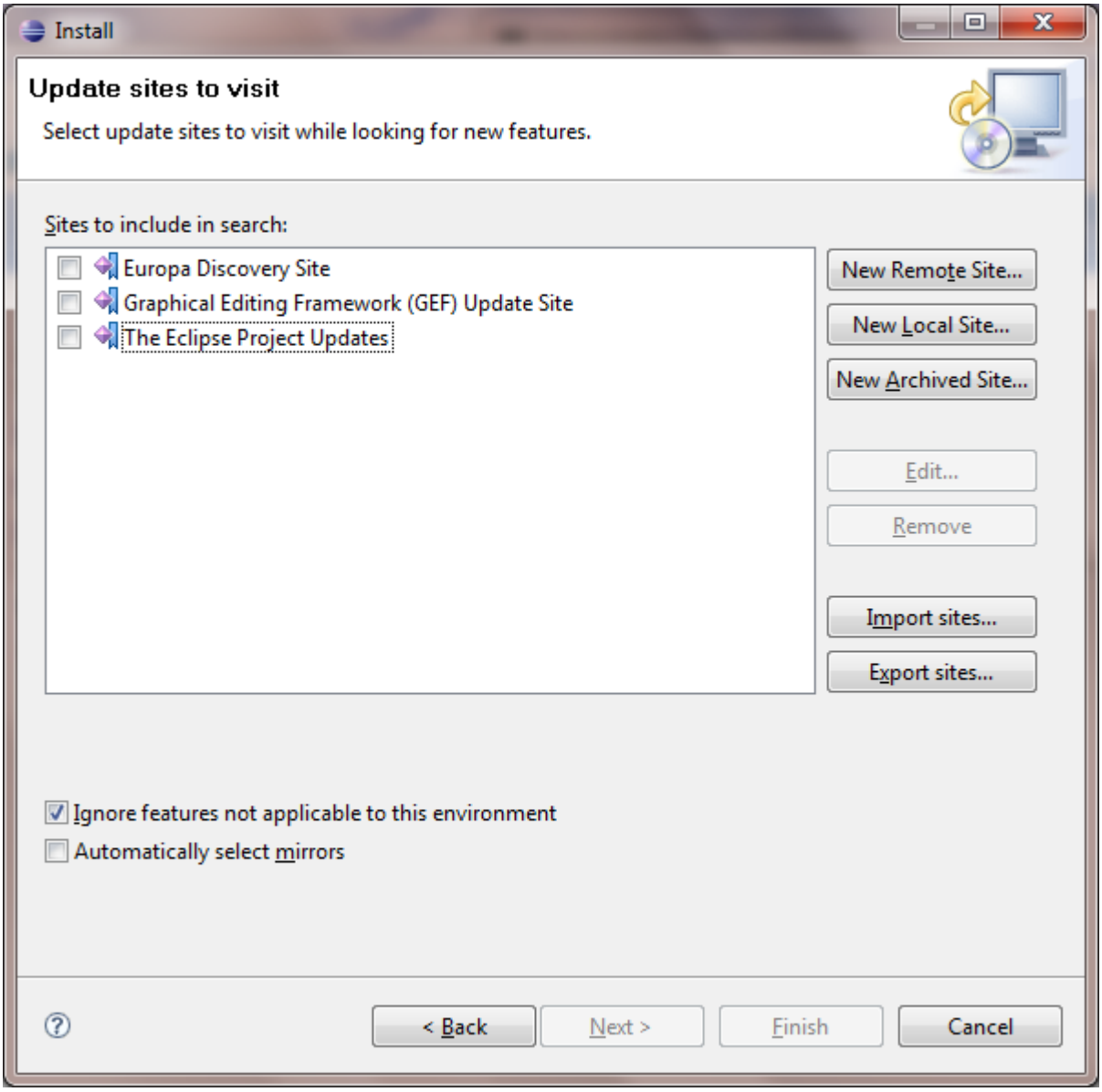
When installing, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' from the 'IBM WebSphere MQ' folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right-mouse button and choose the option to 'Run as administrator'.

Make sure MQ Explorer is running in workbench mode, open the Preferences dialog (select the 'Window → Preferences...' menu item) and select the 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' tree node. The option 'in an Eclipse Workbench' needs to be selected and then the MQ Explorer needs to be restarted.

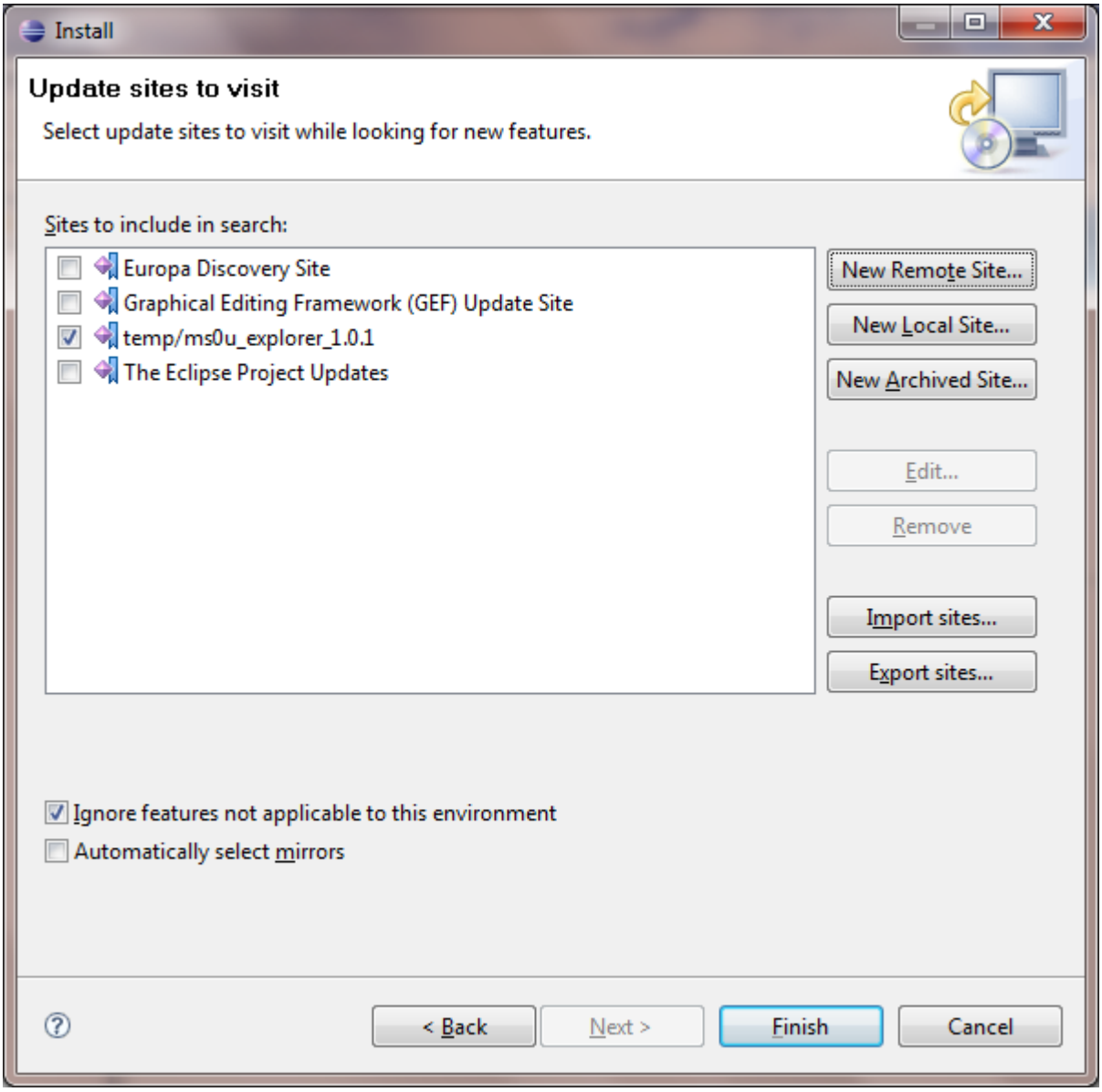
Select the 'Help → Software Updates → Find and Install...' menu item.


Install/Update
Feature Updates
Choose the way you want to search for features to install
Search for updates of the currently installed features
Select this option if you want to search for updates of the features you already have installed.
Search for new features to install
Select this option if you want to install new features from existing or new update sites. Some sites may already be available. You can add new update site URLs to the search.
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

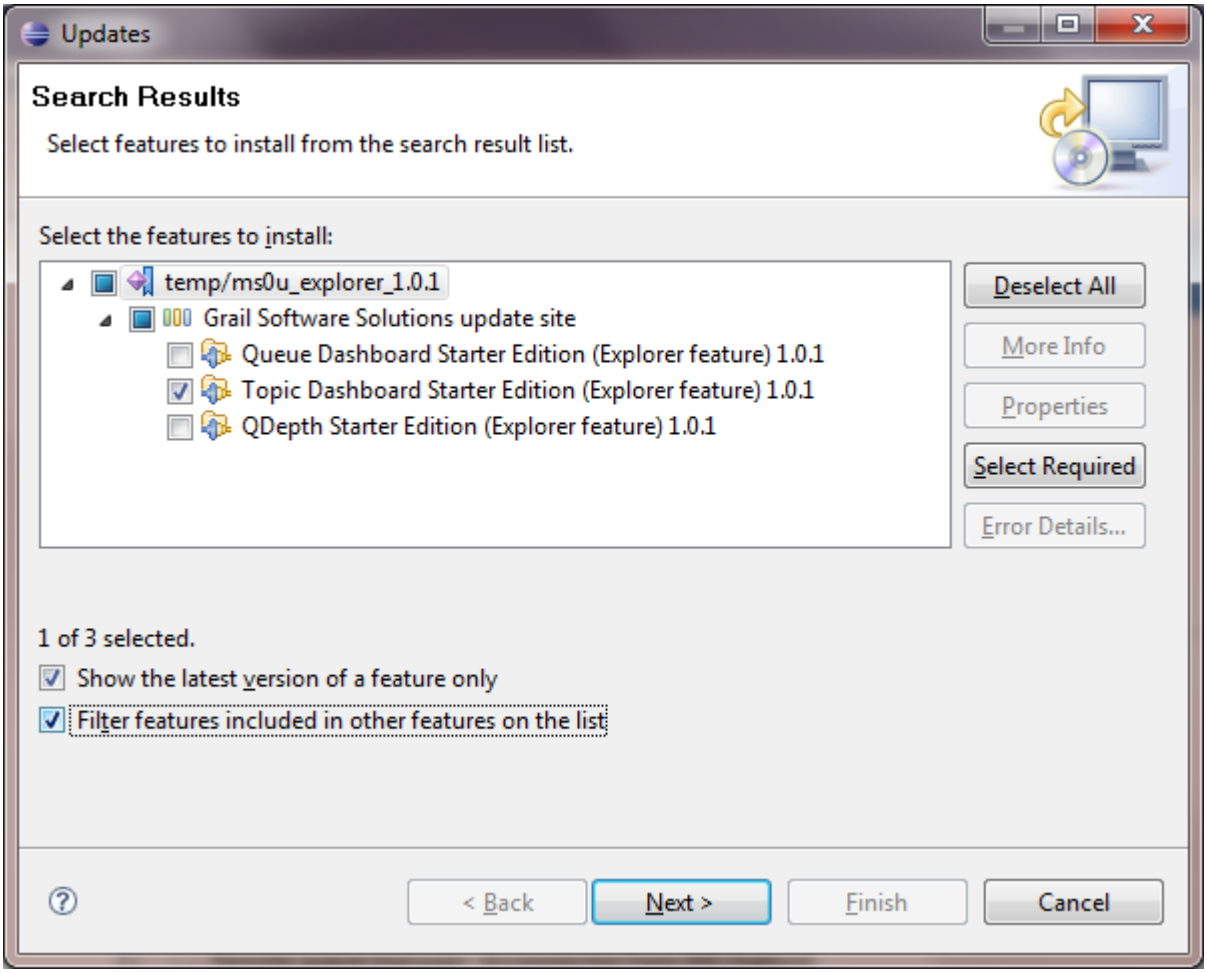
1. Select ‘Search for new features to install’ and press the ‘Next’ button.



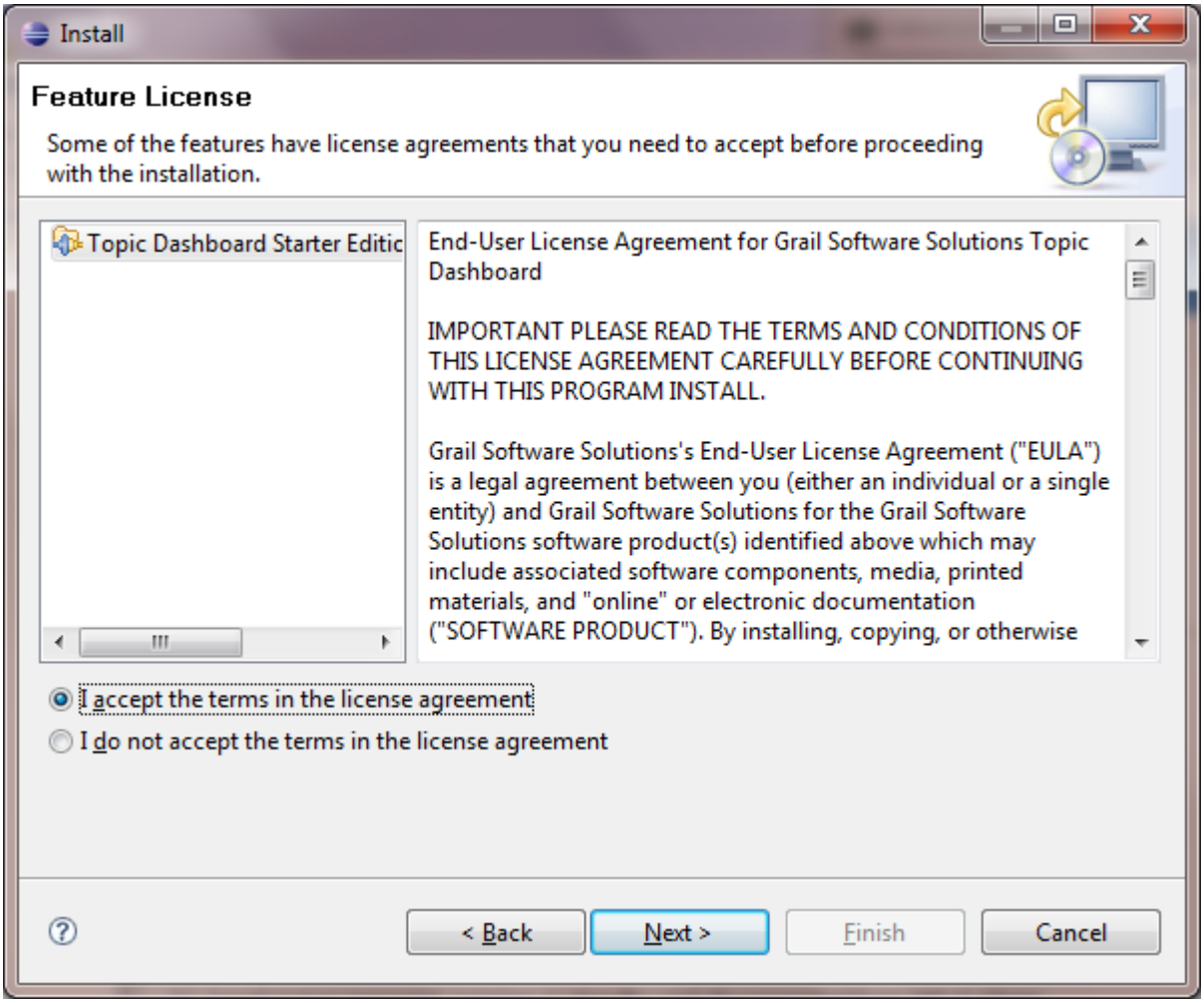
2. Press the 'New Local Site...' button.
3. Select the directory containing the GSS Topic Dashboard site.xml file (for example c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1).



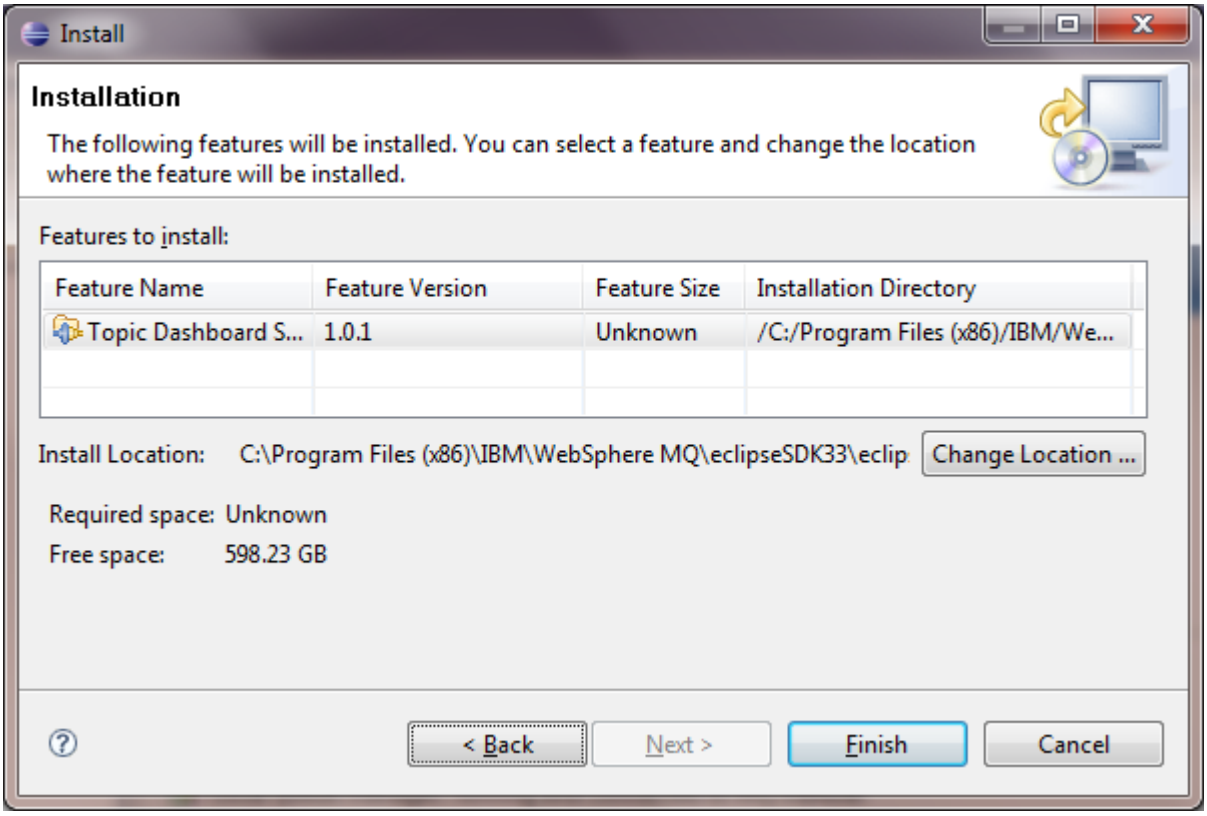
4. Press the 'Finish' button.



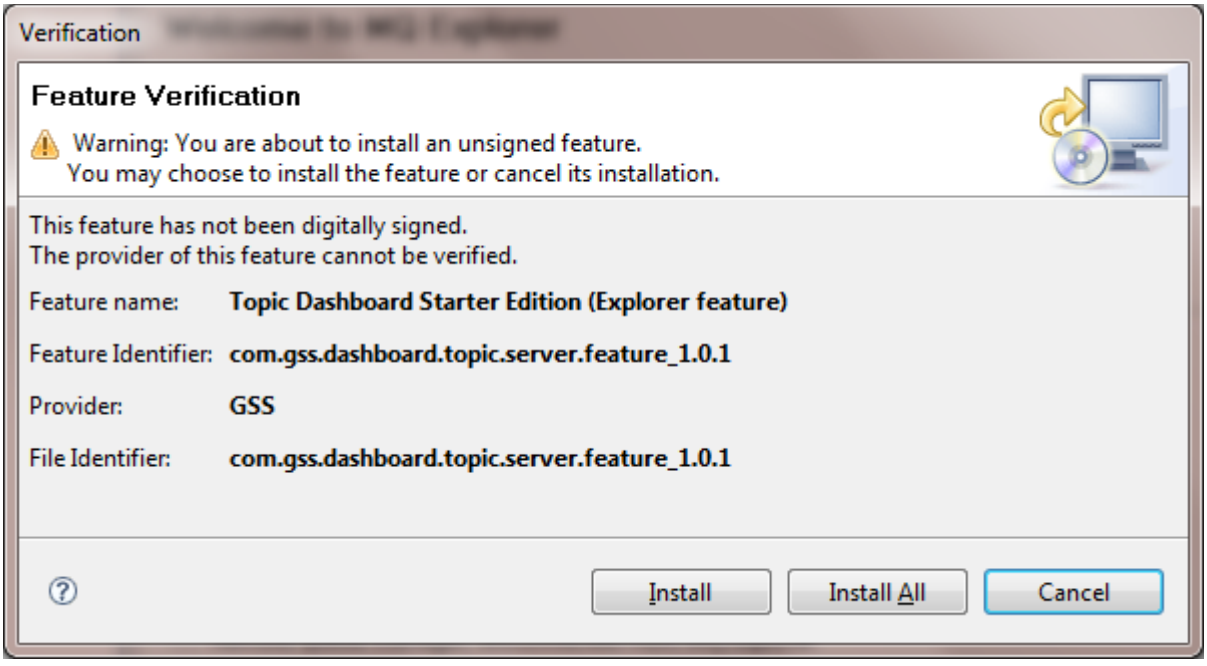
5. From the Updates dialog, expand the 'temp/ms0u_explorer_1.0.1' node and select the GSS Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) from the list.
6. Press the 'Next' button to see the Feature License dialog.


Install
Feature License
Some of the features have license agreements that you need to accept before proceeding with the installation.
Topic Dashboard Starter Editic
End-User License Agreement for Grail Software Solutions Topic Dashboard
IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LICENSE AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE CONTINUING WITH THIS PROGRAM INSTALL.
Grail Software Solutions's End-User License Agreement ("EULA") is a legal agreement between you (either an individual or a single entity) and Grail Software Solutions for the Grail Software Solutions software product(s) identified above which may include associated software components, media, printed materials, and "online" or electronic documentation ("SOFTWARE PRODUCT"). By installing, copying, or otherwise
I accept the terms in the license agreement
I do not accept the terms in the license agreement
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

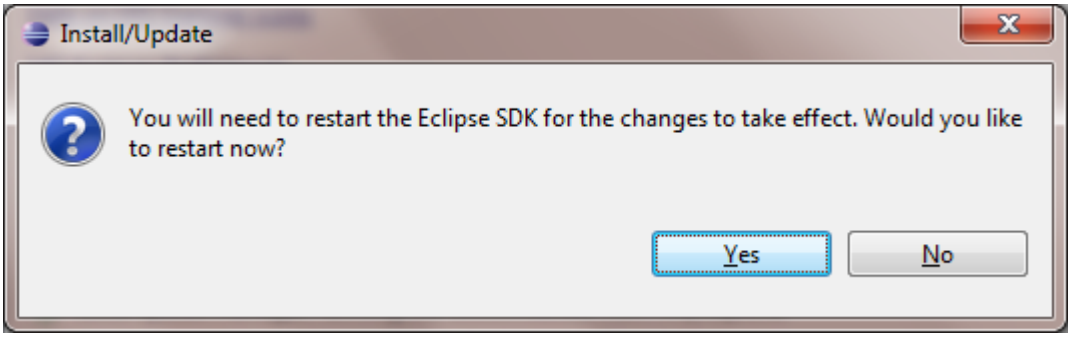
7. Read and accept the terms of the license agreement.
8. Press the ‘Next’ button.



9. Press the 'Finish' button (or 'Cancel' to stop the installation).


Verification
Feature Verification
Warning: You are about to install an unsigned feature.
You may choose to install the feature or cancel its installation.
This feature has not been digitally signed.
The provider of this feature cannot be verified.
Feature name: Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
Feature Identifier: com.gss.dashboard.topic.server.feature_1.0.1
Provider: GSS
File Identifier: com.gss.dashboard.topic.server.feature_1.0.1
Install
Install All
Cancel

10. Press the 'Install' or 'Install All' button.


Install/Update
You will need to restart the Eclipse SDK for the changes to take effect. Would you like to restart now?
Yes
No

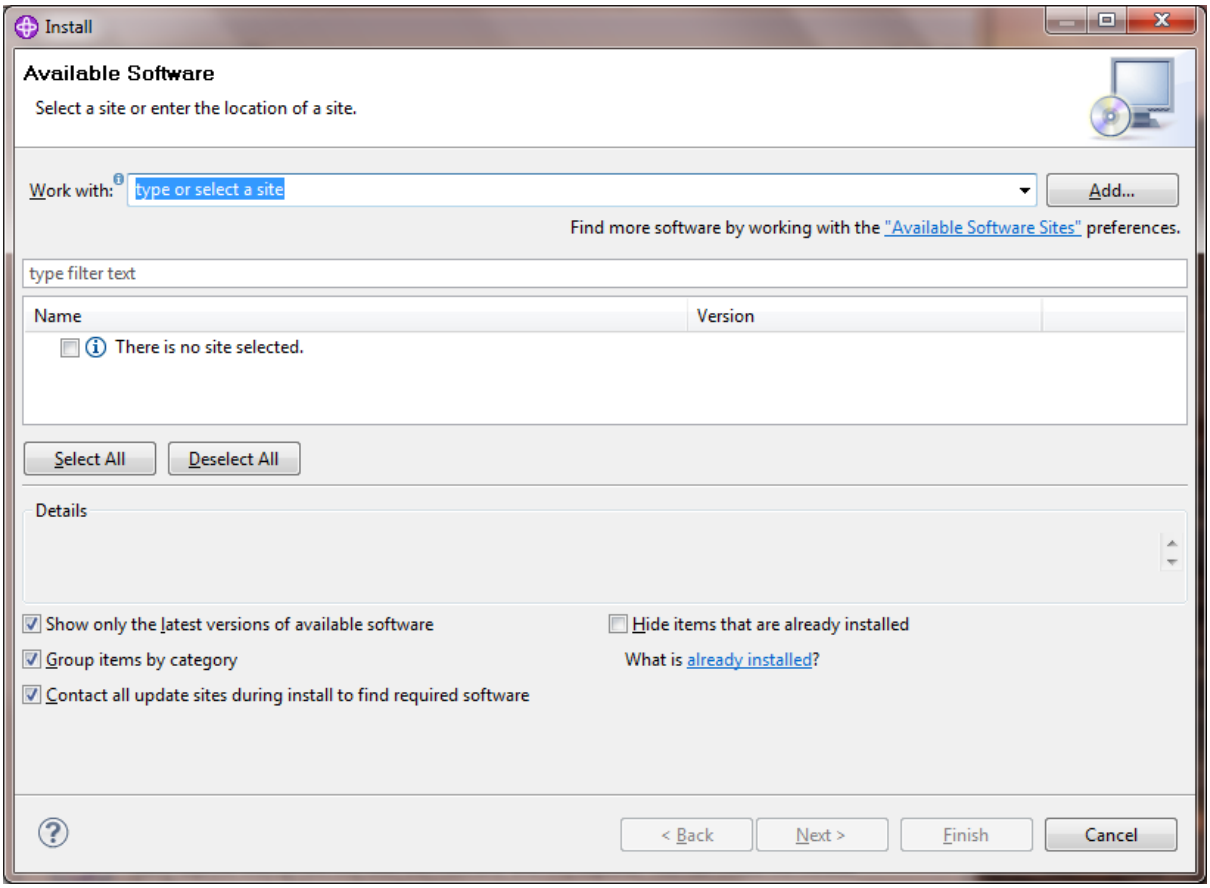
11. Press the ‘Yes’ button to restart the MQ Explorer.

Install GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x

The file called ms0u_explorer_101.zip can be downloaded as part of the **MS0U** SupportPac from www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#4. Unzip the file into a temporary location, for example, c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1

When installing, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' from the 'IBM WebSphere MQ' folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right-mouse button and choose the option to 'Run as administrator'.

Select the 'Help → Install New Software...' menu item.



1. Press the 'Add...' button.
2. Press the 'Local...' button on the Add Repository dialog.
3. Select the directory containing the GSS Topic Dashboard site.xml file (for example c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1). You do not need to enter anything in the 'Name' field.

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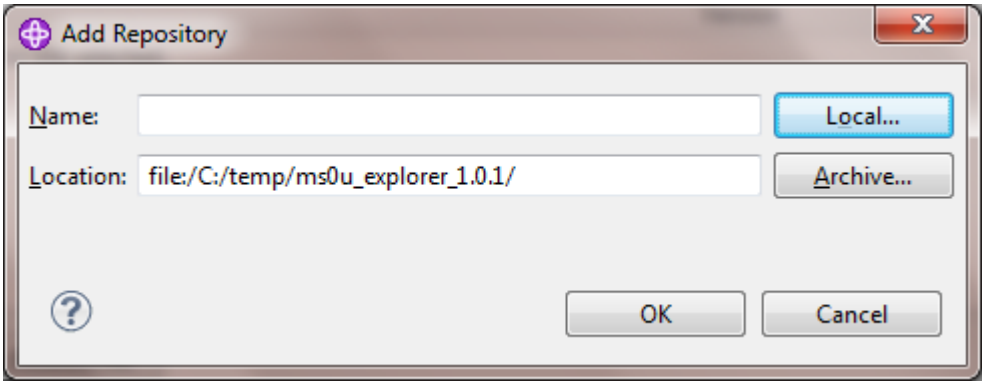
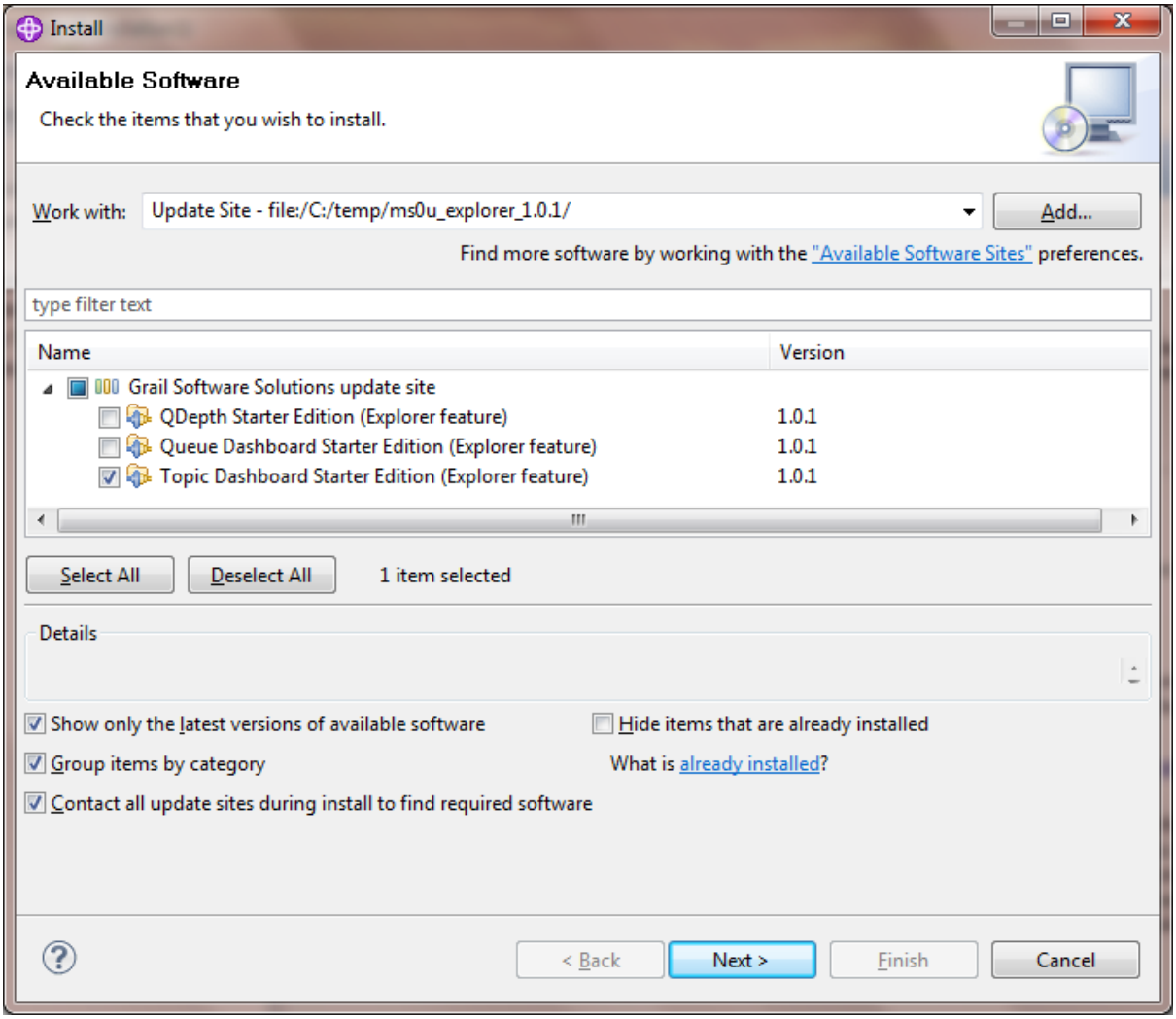
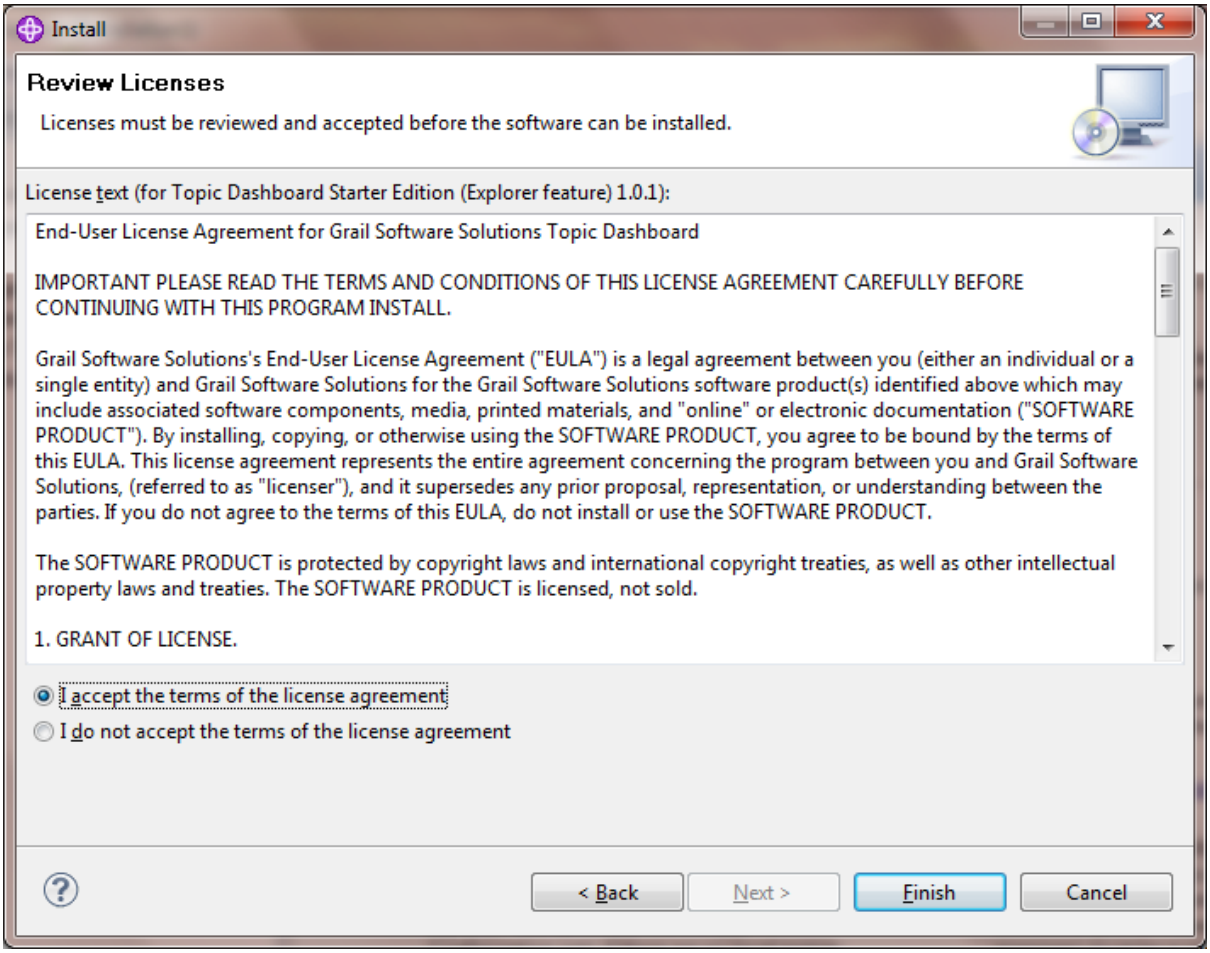


4. Press the ‘OK’ button.



5. From the Available Software dialog, expand the ‘Grail Software Solutions update site’ node and select the GSS Topic Dashboard Explorer Feature from the drop down list.
6. Press the ‘Next’ button to review the items to be installed.
7. Press the ‘Next’ button again.


Install
Review Licenses
Licenses must be reviewed and accepted before the software can be installed.
License text (for Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.1):
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IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LICENSE AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE CONTINUING WITH THIS PROGRAM INSTALL.
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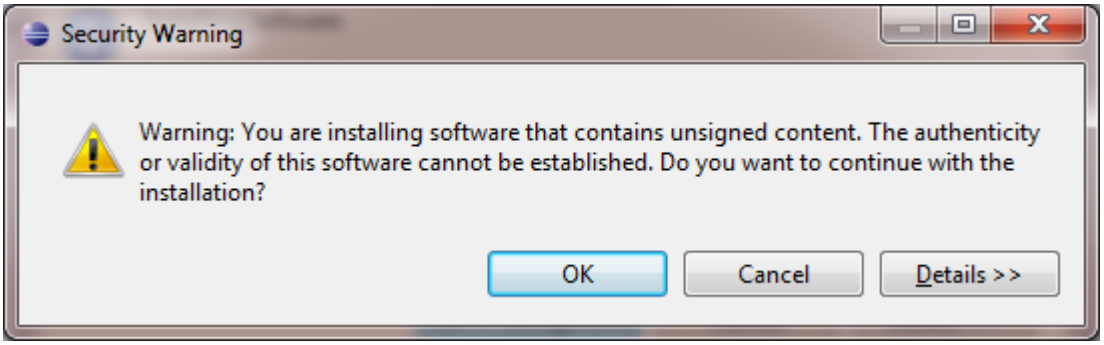
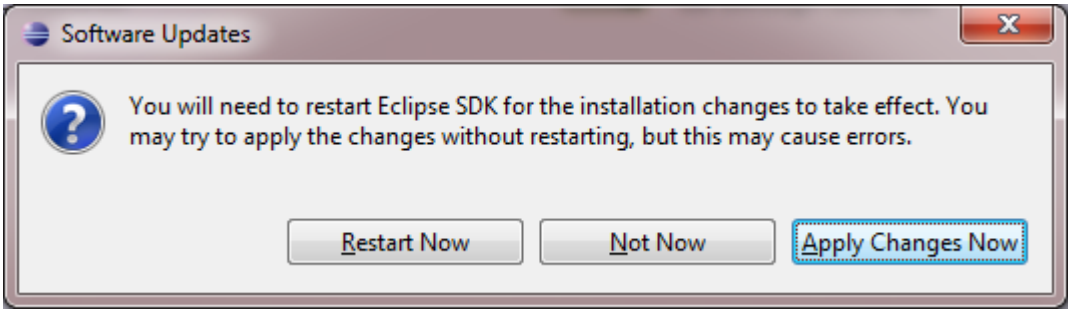
The SOFTWARE PRODUCT is protected by copyright laws and international copyright treaties, as well as other intellectual property laws and treaties. The SOFTWARE PRODUCT is licensed, not sold.
1. GRANT OF LICENSE.
I accept the terms of the license agreement
I do not accept the terms of the license agreement
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

8. Read and accept the terms of the license agreement.
9. Press the ‘Finish’ button (or ‘Cancel’ to stop the installation).


Security Warning
Warning: You are installing software that contains unsigned content. The authenticity or validity of this software cannot be established. Do you want to continue with the installation?
OK
Cancel
Details >>

10. A security warning may be shown saying ‘Warning: you are installing software that contains unsigned content...’ Press the ‘OK’ button to continue the installation or ‘Cancel’ to quit the installation.


Software Updates
You will need to restart Eclipse SDK for the installation changes to take effect. You may try to apply the changes without restarting, but this may cause errors.
Restart Now
Not Now
Apply Changes Now

11. Press the ‘Restart Now’ button to restart the MQ Explorer.

Upgrade

This section describes how to upgrade GSS Topic Dashboard 1.0.0 to 1.0.1

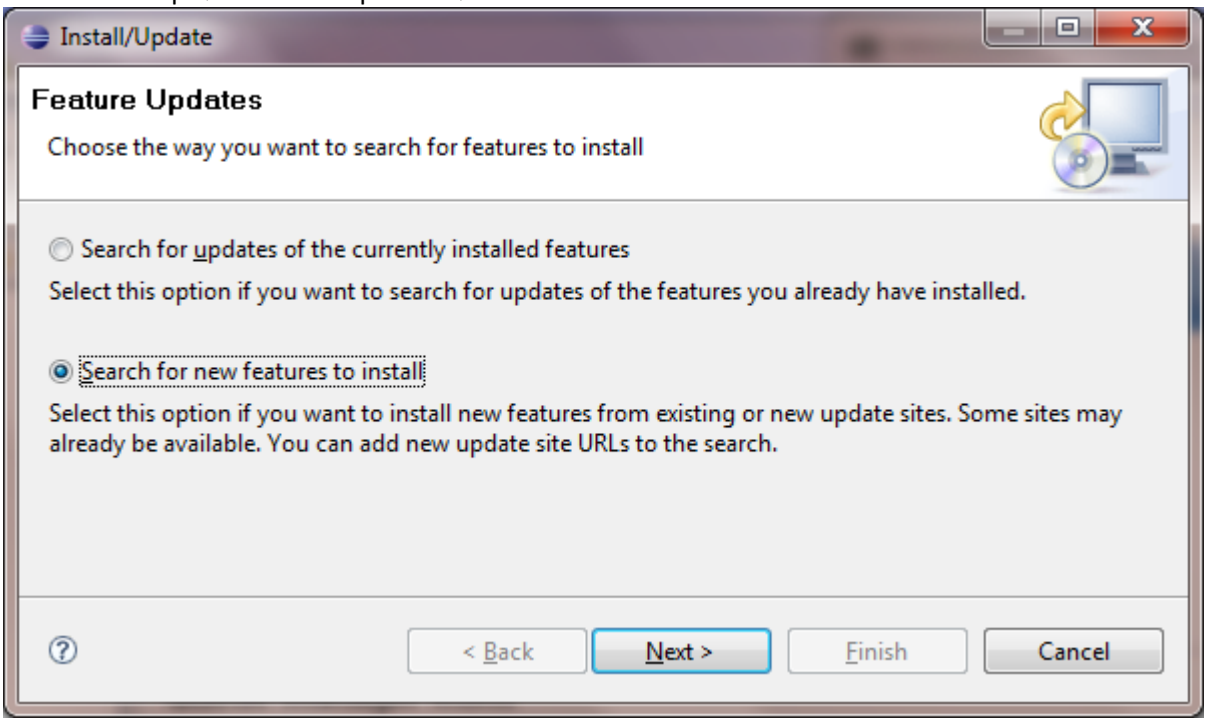
Upgrade GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.0.x

The file called ms0u_explorer_101.zip can be downloaded as part of the **MS0U** SupportPac from www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#4. Unzip the file into a temporary location, for example, c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1

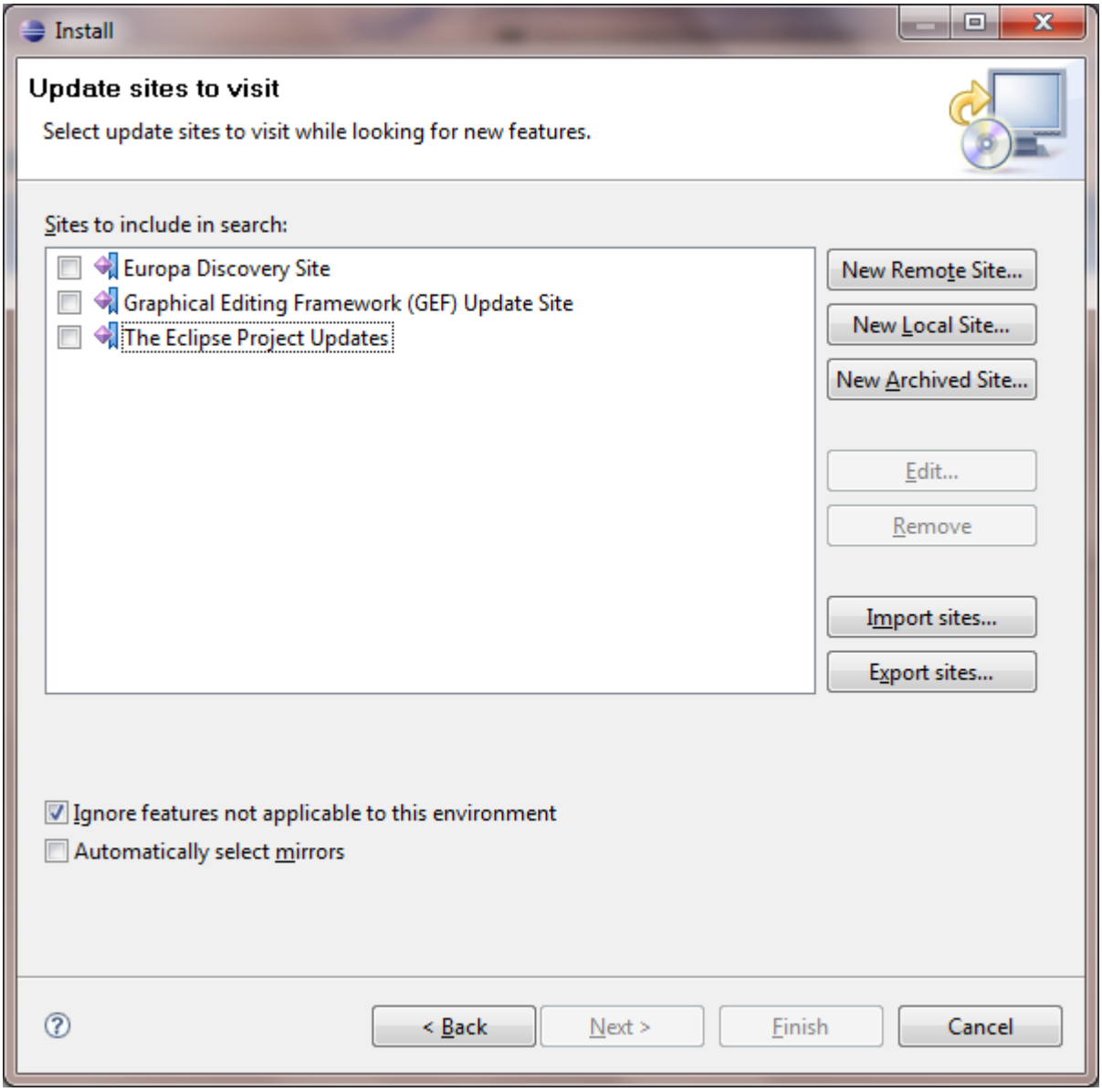
When installing, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' from the 'IBM WebSphere MQ' folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right-mouse button and choose the option to 'Run as administrator'.

Make sure MQ Explorer is running in workbench mode, open the Preferences dialog (select the 'Window → Preferences...' menu item) and select the 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' tree node. The option 'in an Eclipse Workbench' needs to be selected and then the MQ Explorer needs to be restarted.

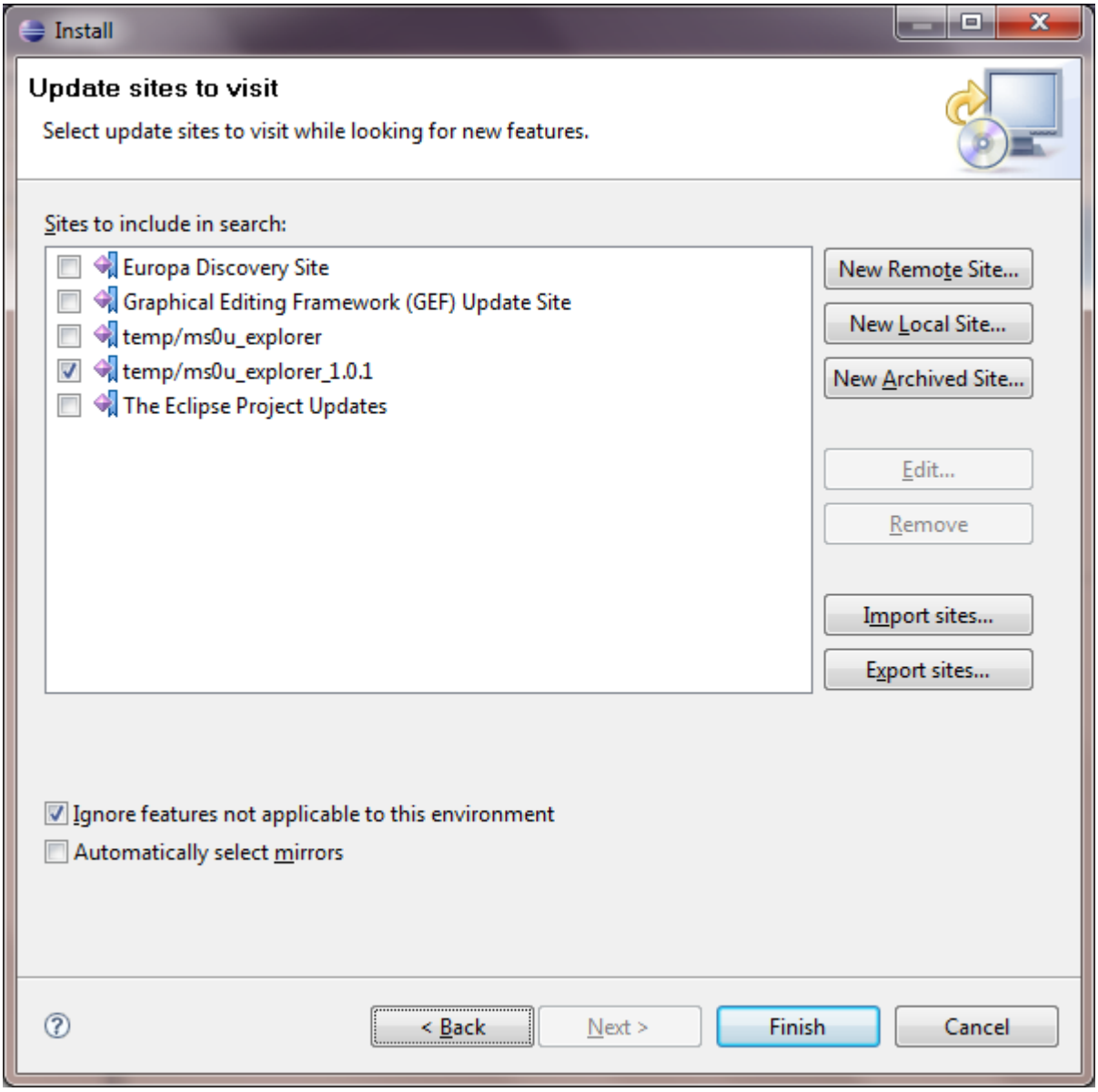
Select the 'Help → Software Updates → Find and Install...' menu item.


Install/Update
Feature Updates
Choose the way you want to search for features to install
Search for updates of the currently installed features
Select this option if you want to search for updates of the features you already have installed.
Search for new features to install
Select this option if you want to install new features from existing or new update sites. Some sites may already be available. You can add new update site URLs to the search.
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

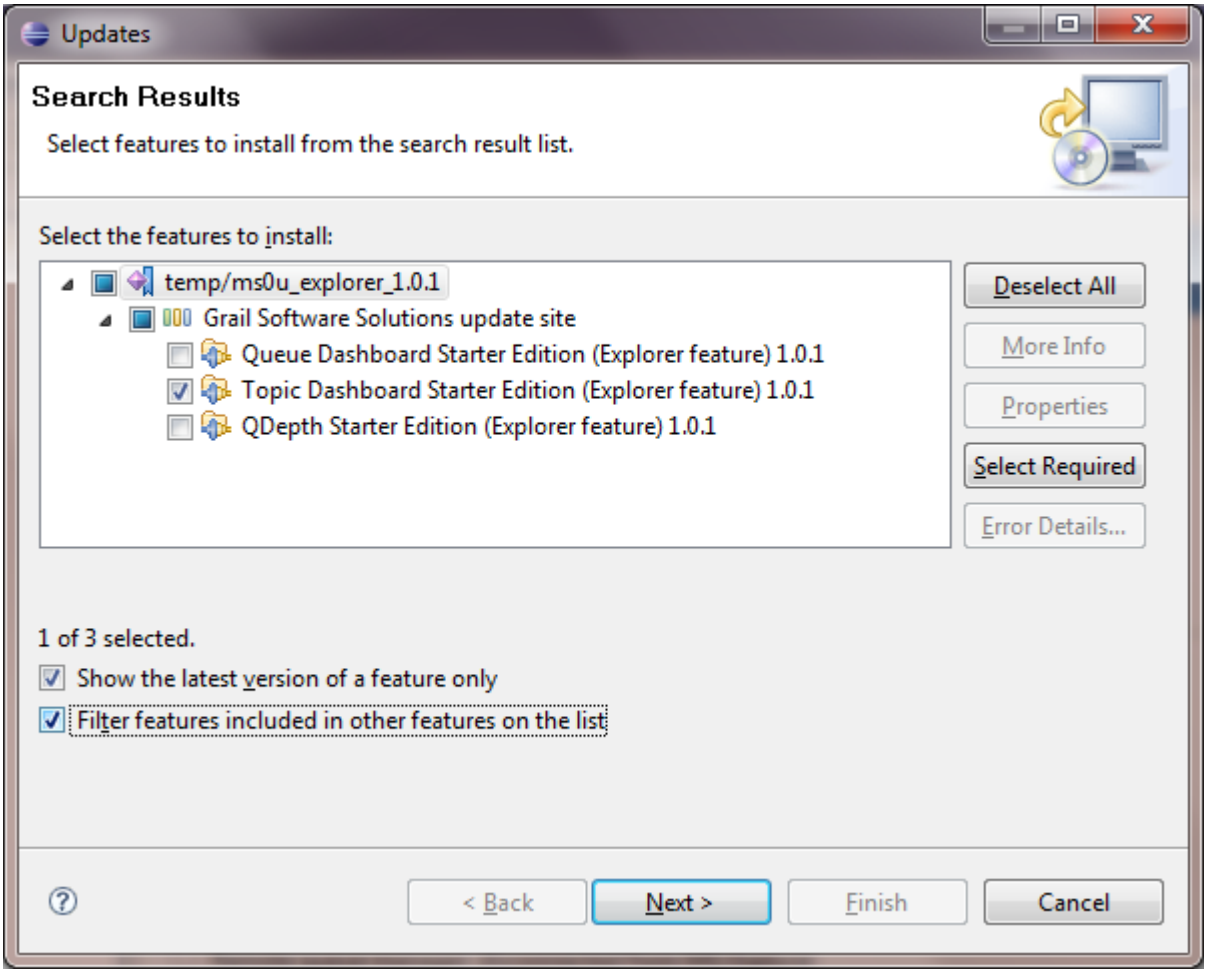
1. Select 'Search for new features to install' and press the 'Next' button.



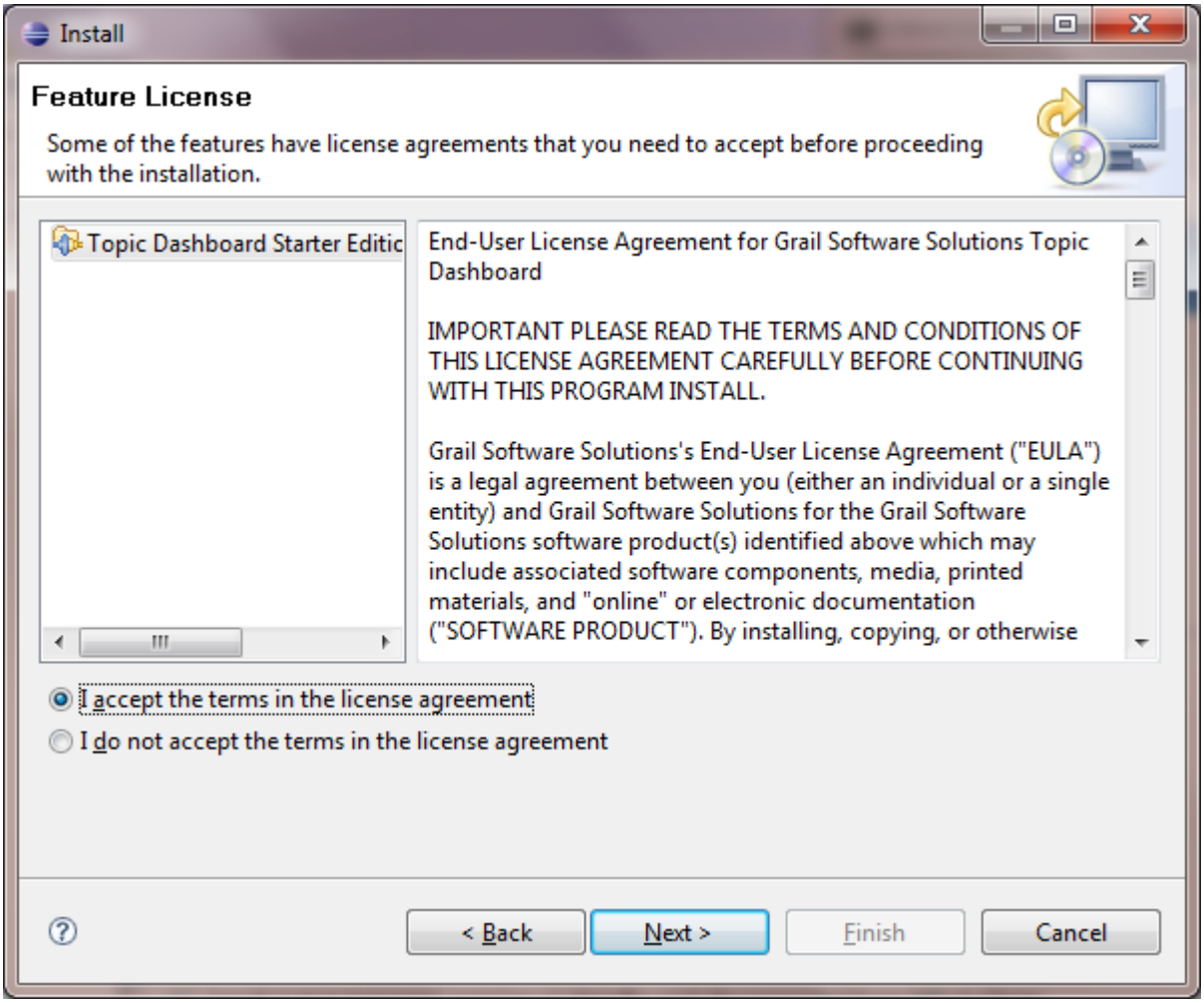
2. Press the 'New Local Site...' button.
3. Select the directory containing the GSS Topic Dashboard site.xml file (for example c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1).



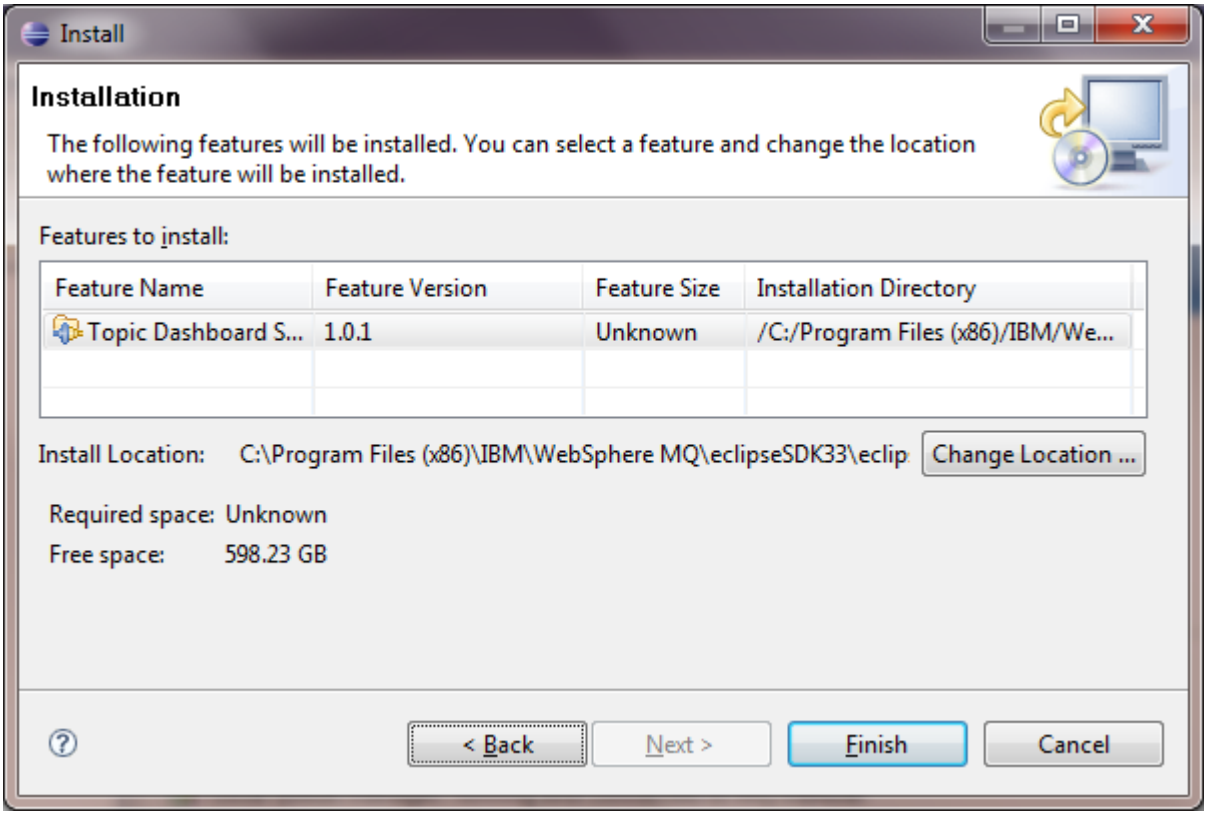
4. Press the 'Finish' button.



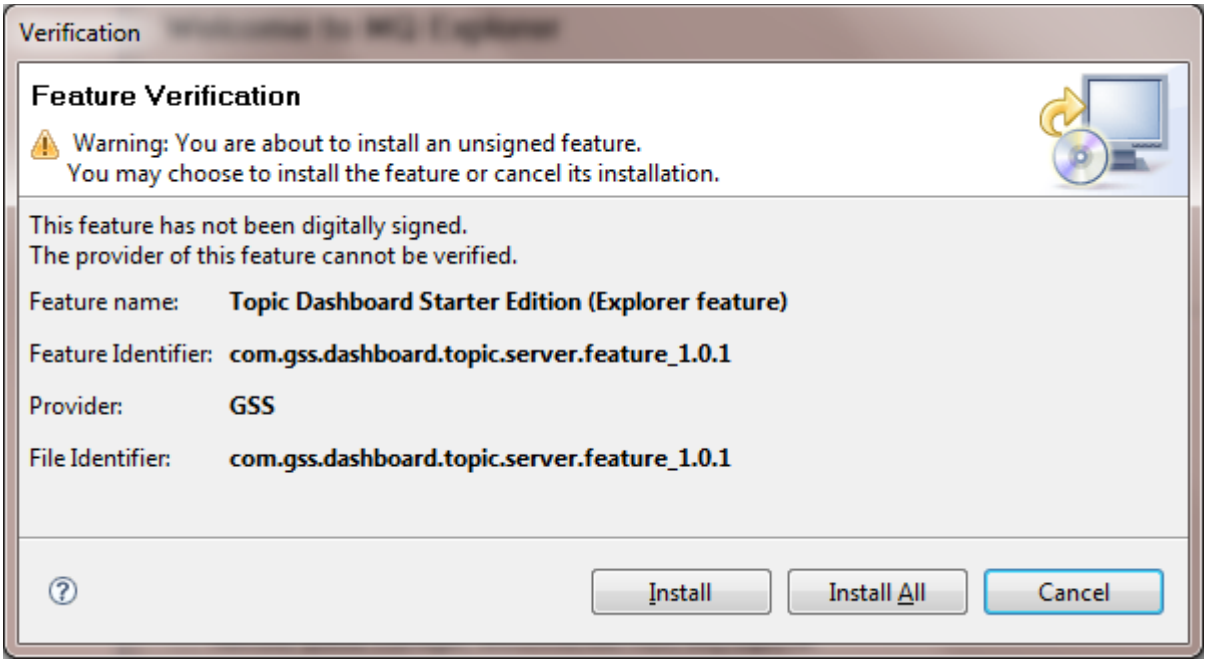
5. From the Updates dialog, expand the 'temp/ms0u_explorer_1.0.1' node and select the GSS Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) from the list.
6. Press the 'Next' button to see the Feature License dialog.


Install
Feature License
Some of the features have license agreements that you need to accept before proceeding with the installation.
Topic Dashboard Starter Editic
End-User License Agreement for Grail Software Solutions Topic Dashboard
IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LICENSE AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE CONTINUING WITH THIS PROGRAM INSTALL.
Grail Software Solutions's End-User License Agreement ("EULA") is a legal agreement between you (either an individual or a single entity) and Grail Software Solutions for the Grail Software Solutions software product(s) identified above which may include associated software components, media, printed materials, and "online" or electronic documentation ("SOFTWARE PRODUCT"). By installing, copying, or otherwise
I accept the terms in the license agreement
I do not accept the terms in the license agreement
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

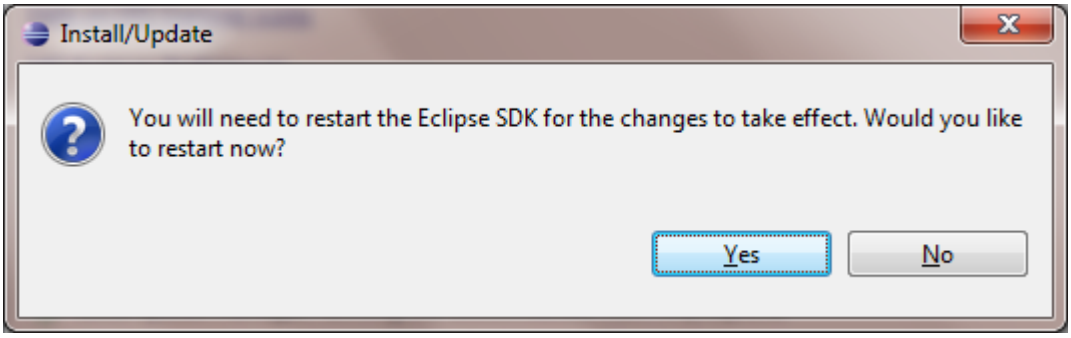
7. Read and accept the terms of the license agreement.
8. Press the ‘Next’ button.



9. Press the 'Finish' button (or 'Cancel' to stop the installation).


Verification
Feature Verification
Warning: You are about to install an unsigned feature.
You may choose to install the feature or cancel its installation.
This feature has not been digitally signed.
The provider of this feature cannot be verified.
Feature name: Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)
Feature Identifier: com.gss.dashboard.topic.server.feature_1.0.1
Provider: GSS
File Identifier: com.gss.dashboard.topic.server.feature_1.0.1
Install
Install All
Cancel

10. Press the 'Install' or 'Install All' button.


Install/Update
You will need to restart the Eclipse SDK for the changes to take effect. Would you like to restart now?
Yes
No

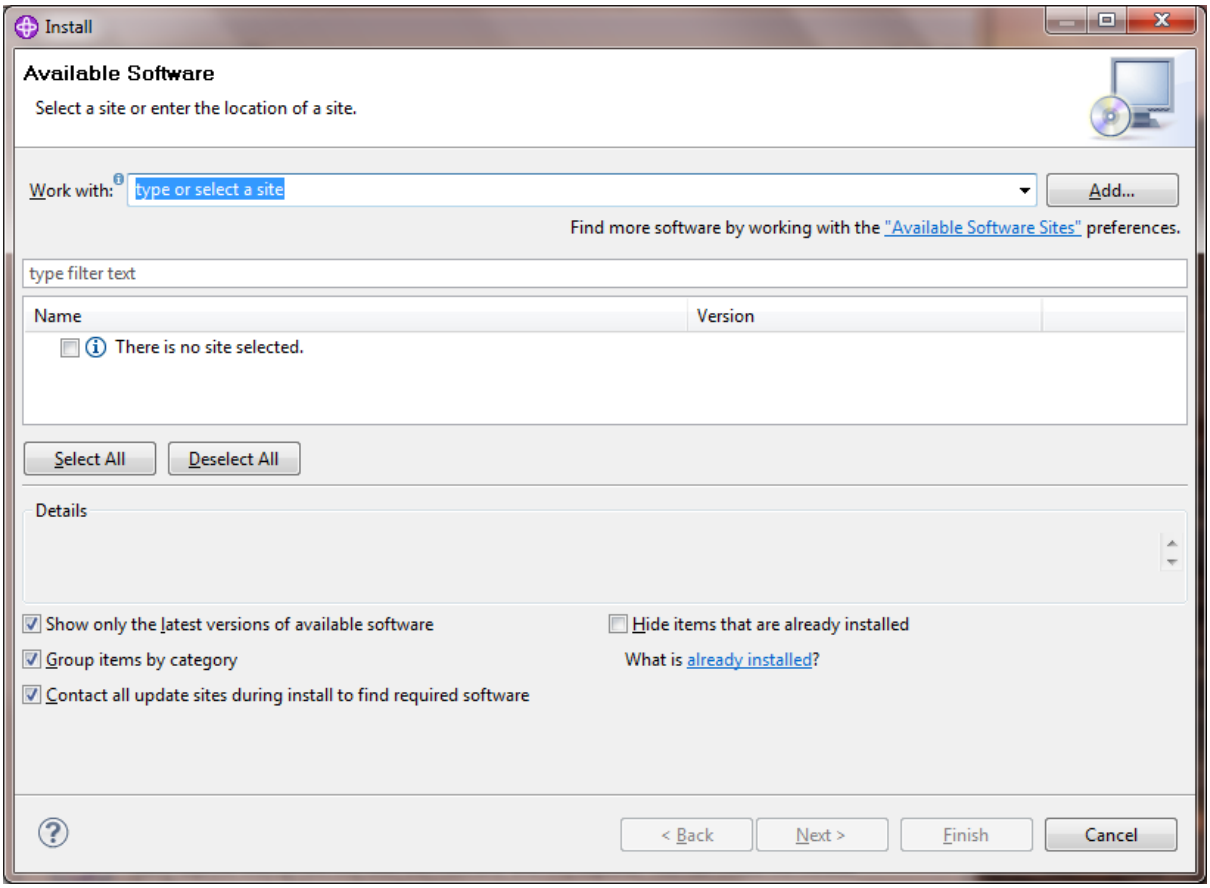
11. Press the ‘Yes’ button to restart the MQ Explorer.

Upgrade GSS Topic Dashboard in MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x

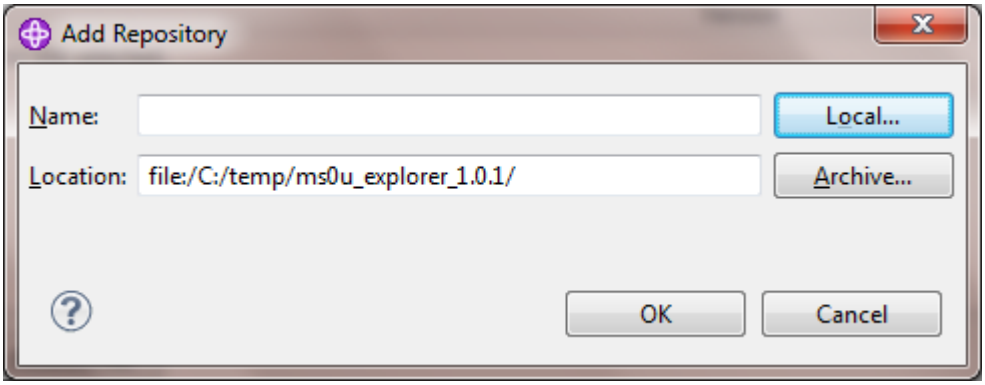
The file called ms0u_explorer_101.zip can be downloaded as part of the **MS0U** SupportPac from www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg27007198#4. Unzip the file into a temporary location, for example, c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1

When installing, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' from the 'IBM WebSphere MQ' folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right-mouse button and choose the option to 'Run as administrator'.

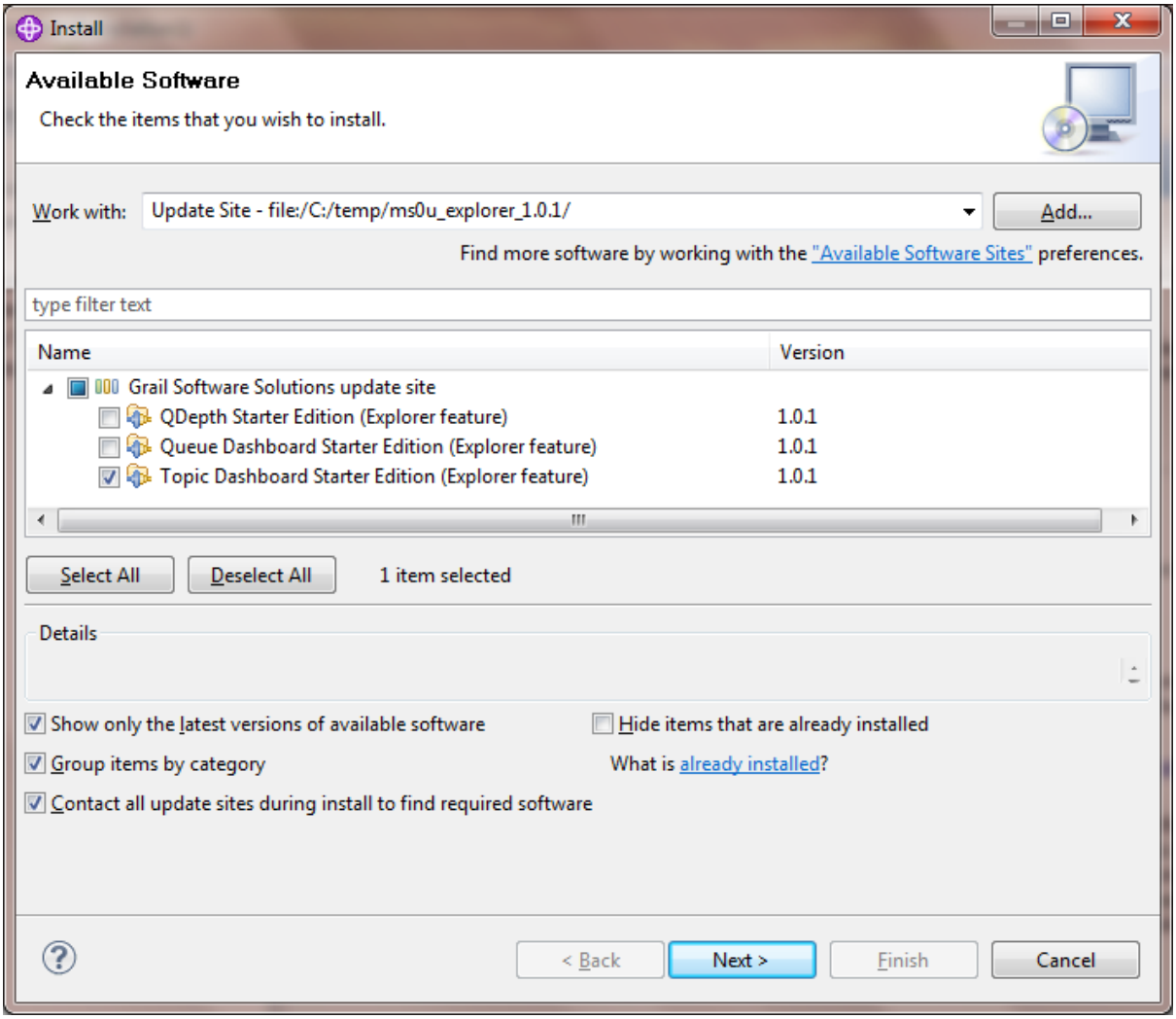
Select the 'Help → Install New Software...' menu item.



1. Press the 'Add...' button.
2. Press the 'Local...' button on the Add Repository dialog.
3. Select the directory containing the GSS Topic Dashboard site.xml file (for example c:\temp\ms0u_explorer_1.0.1). You do not need to enter anything in the 'Name' field.



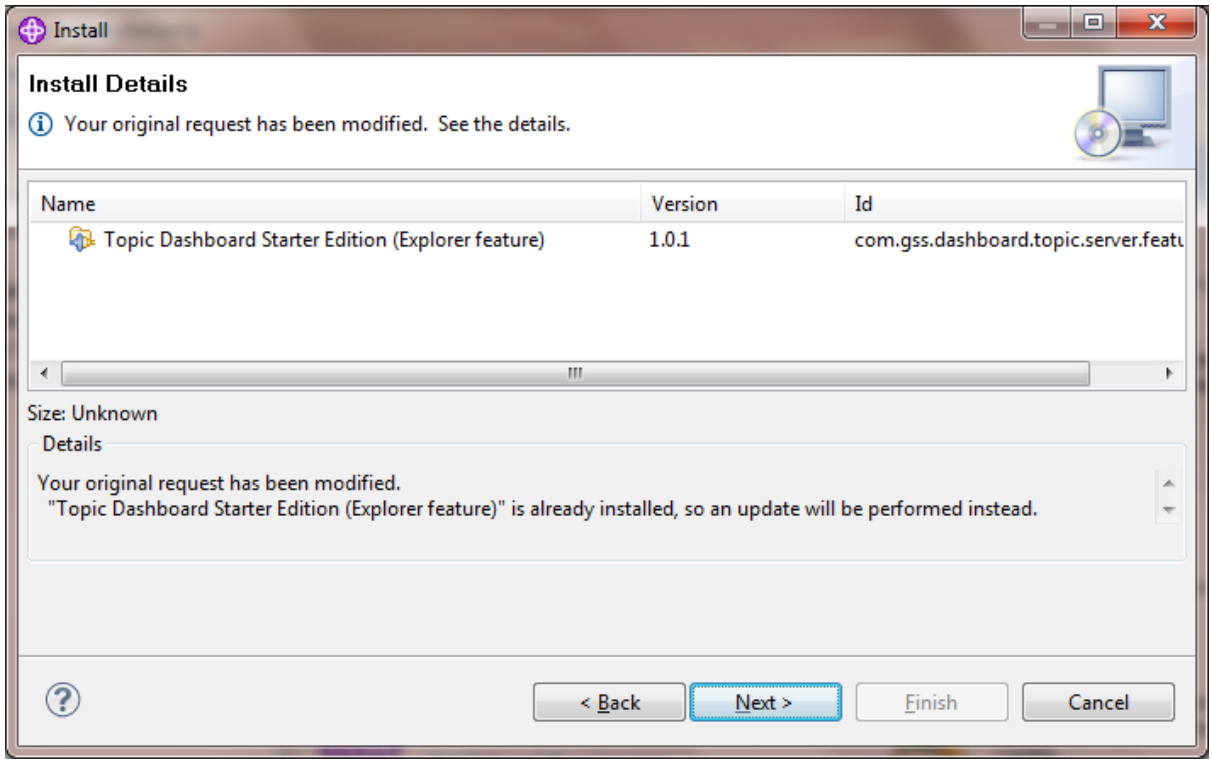
4. Press the ‘OK’ button.



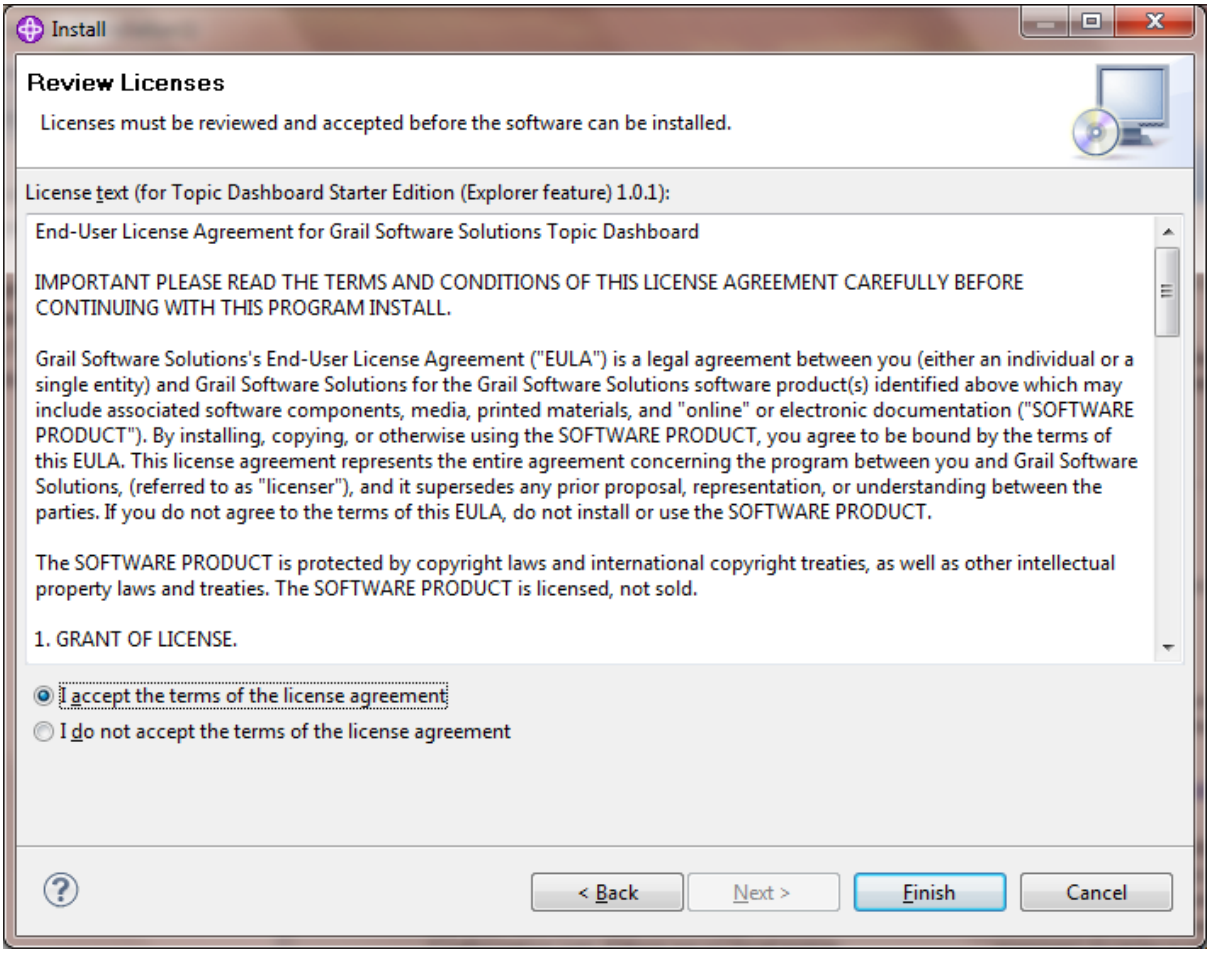
5. From the Available Software dialog, expand the ‘Grail Software Solutions update site’ node and select the GSS Topic Dashboard Explorer Feature from the drop down list. Press the ‘Next’ button to review the items to be installed.

   Note if the next dialog contains an error message like ‘The operation cannot be completed. See the details’ then you will need to scroll down in the ‘Details’ section to see the relevant error message.

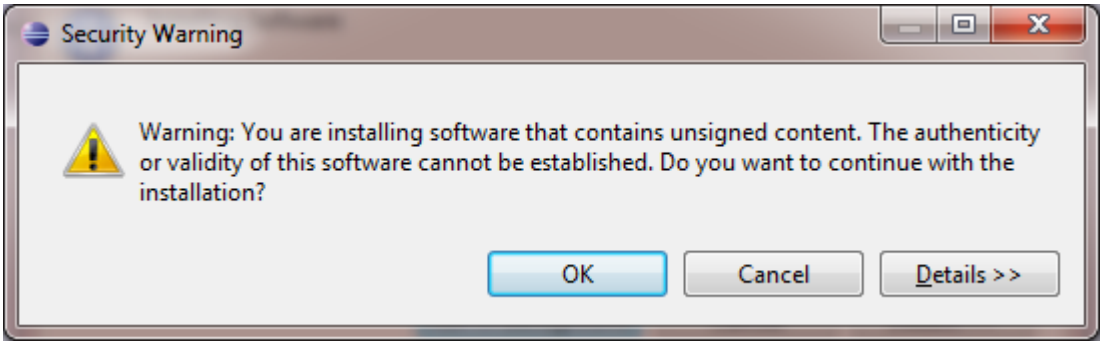
If there is more than one GSS application installed in the same MQ Explorer, then all GSS applications will need to be updated to the same version at the same time. This can be achieved by repeating from step 1 and adding another 'Available Software Site', to point to the other GSS application local update site. This will allow '-- All Available Sites --' to be selected from the 'Work with:' drop down list and from that, all GSS applications can be upgraded at the same time.



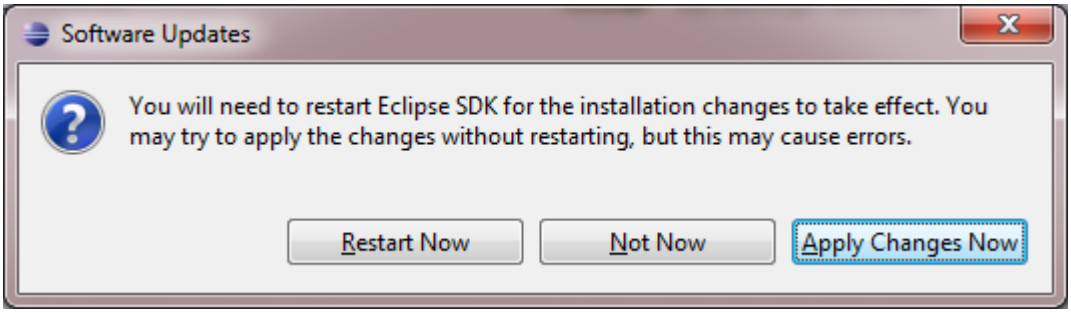
6. Note the message about an update will be performed. Press the 'Next' button.


Install
Review Licenses
Licenses must be reviewed and accepted before the software can be installed.
License text (for Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.1):
End-User License Agreement for Grail Software Solutions Topic Dashboard
IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS LICENSE AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE CONTINUING WITH THIS PROGRAM INSTALL.
Grail Software Solutions's End-User License Agreement ("EULA") is a legal agreement between you (either an individual or a single entity) and Grail Software Solutions for the Grail Software Solutions software product(s) identified above which may include associated software components, media, printed materials, and "online" or electronic documentation ("SOFTWARE PRODUCT"). By installing, copying, or otherwise using the SOFTWARE PRODUCT, you agree to be bound by the terms of this EULA. This license agreement represents the entire agreement concerning the program between you and Grail Software Solutions, (referred to as "licenser"), and it supersedes any prior proposal, representation, or understanding between the parties. If you do not agree to the terms of this EULA, do not install or use the SOFTWARE PRODUCT.
The SOFTWARE PRODUCT is protected by copyright laws and international copyright treaties, as well as other intellectual property laws and treaties. The SOFTWARE PRODUCT is licensed, not sold.
1. GRANT OF LICENSE.
I accept the terms of the license agreement
I do not accept the terms of the license agreement
< Back
Next >
Finish
Cancel

7. Read and accept the terms of the license agreement.
8. Press the ‘Finish’ button (or ‘Cancel’ to stop the installation).


Security Warning
Warning: You are installing software that contains unsigned content. The authenticity or validity of this software cannot be established. Do you want to continue with the installation?
OK
Cancel
Details >>

9. A security warning may be shown saying ‘Warning: you are installing software that contains unsigned content...’ Press the ‘OK’ button to continue the installation or ‘Cancel’ to quit the installation.


Software Updates
You will need to restart Eclipse SDK for the installation changes to take effect. You may try to apply the changes without restarting, but this may cause errors.
Restart Now
Not Now
Apply Changes Now

10. Press the ‘Restart Now’ button to restart the MQ Explorer.

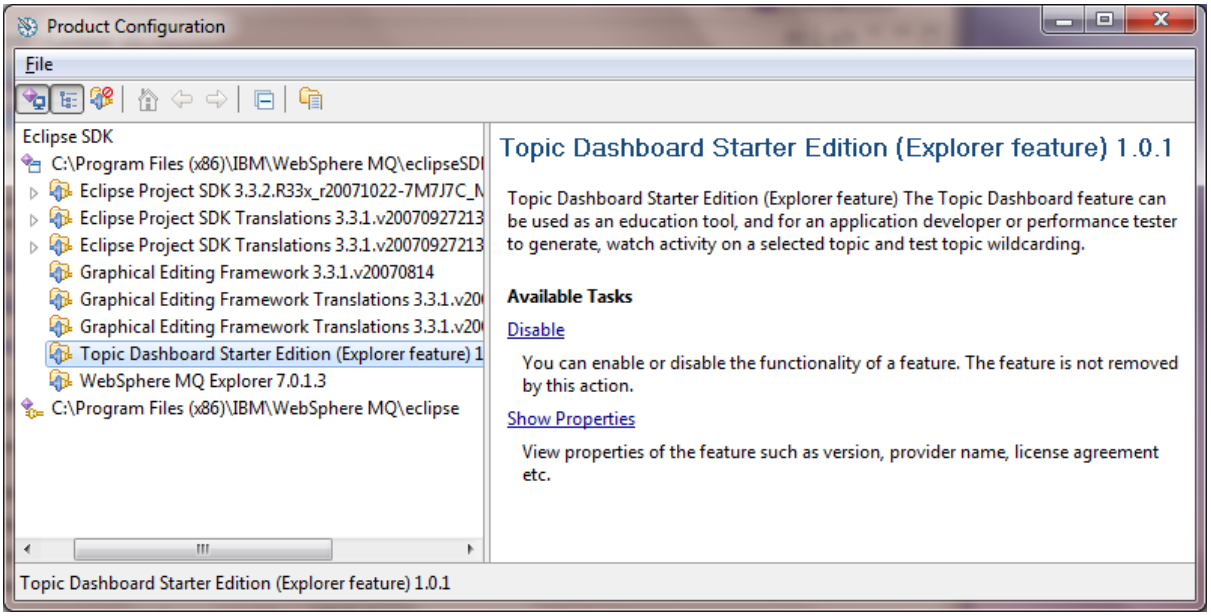
Uninstall

Uninstall GSS Topic Dashboard from MQ Explorer 7.0.x

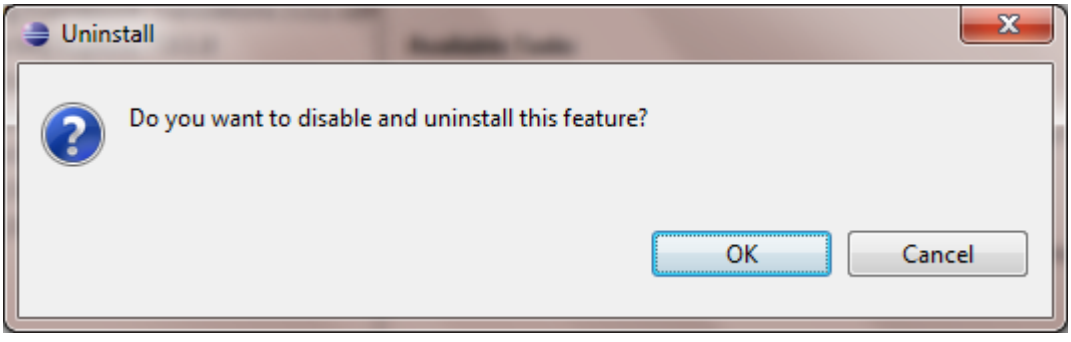
When uninstalling, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' from the 'IBM WebSphere MQ' folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right-mouse button and choose the option to 'Run as administrator'.

Make sure MQ Explorer is running in workbench mode, open the Preferences dialog (select the 'Window → Preferences...' menu item) and check the 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' tree node. The option 'in an Eclipse Workbench' needs to be selected and then the MQ Explorer needs to be restarted.

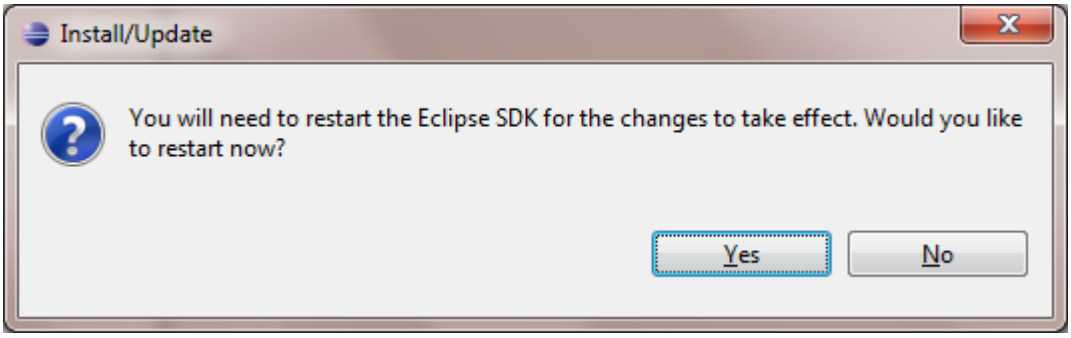
Select the 'Help → Software Updates → Manage Configuration...' menu item and expand the Eclipse SDK node to show all features.


Product Configuration
File
Eclipse SDK
C:\Program Files (x86)\IBM\WebSphere MQ\eclipseSDI
Eclipse Project SDK 3.3.2.R33x_r20071022-7M7J7C_N
Eclipse Project SDK Translations 3.3.1.v20070927213
Eclipse Project SDK Translations 3.3.1.v20070927213
Graphical Editing Framework 3.3.1.v20070814
Graphical Editing Framework Translations 3.3.1.v20
Graphical Editing Framework Translations 3.3.1.v20
Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1
WebSphere MQ Explorer 7.0.1.3
C:\Program Files (x86)\IBM\WebSphere MQ\eclipse
Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.1
Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) The Topic Dashboard feature can be used as an education tool, and for an application developer or performance tester to generate, watch activity on a selected topic and test topic wildcarding.
Available Tasks
Disable
You can enable or disable the functionality of a feature. The feature is not removed by this action.
Show Properties
View properties of the feature such as version, provider name, license agreement etc.
Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature) 1.0.1

1. Select 'Topic Dashboard Starter Edition (Explorer feature)', press right mouse button and select the 'Uninstall' menu item.



2. Press the 'OK' button to uninstall or Cancel to stop uninstall.


Install/Update
You will need to restart the Eclipse SDK for the changes to take effect. Would you like to restart now?
Yes
No

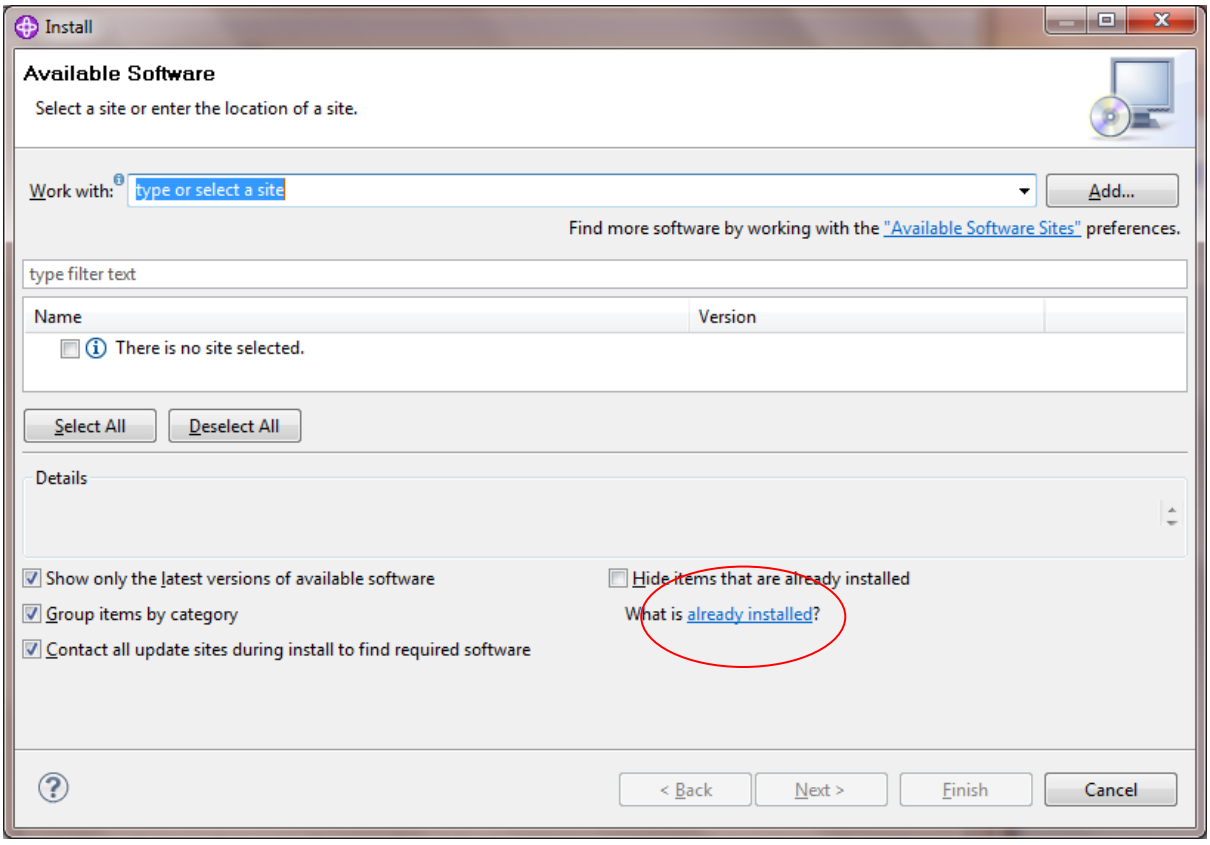
3. Press the 'Yes' to restart the MQ Explorer.

Note uninstalling a feature from Eclipse™ does not remove the jar files from the plugin sub-directory that make up the feature and it is recommended these files are not deleted.

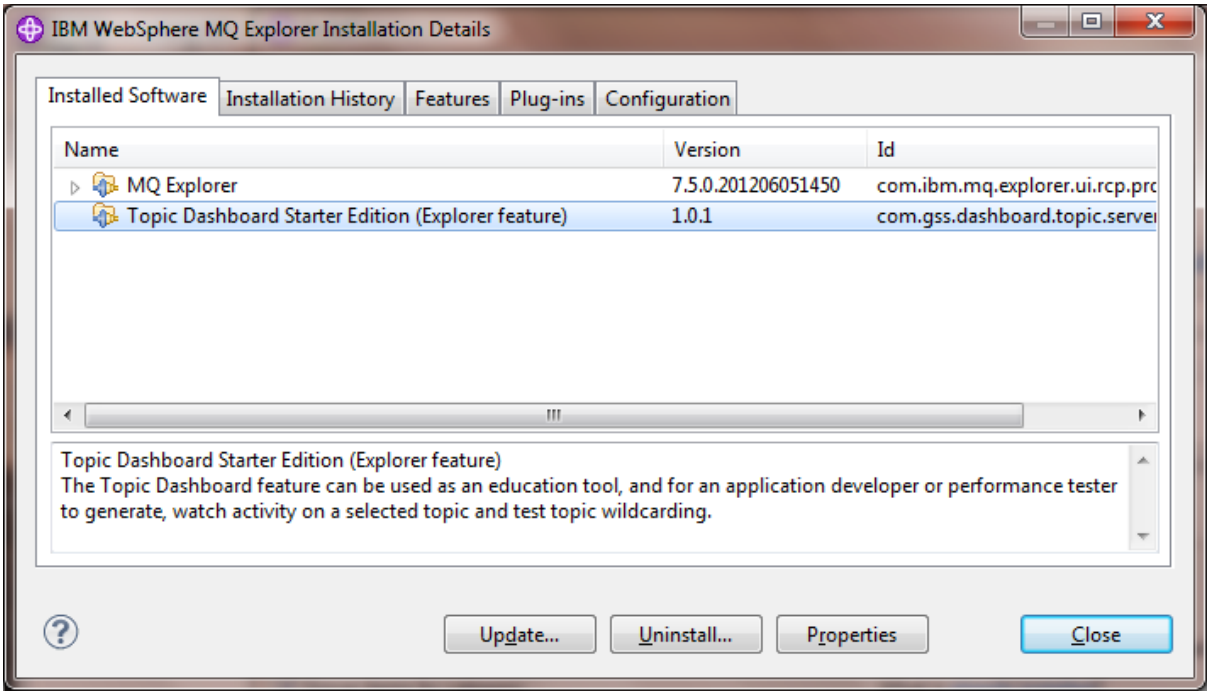
Uninstall GSS Topic Dashboard from MQ Explorer 7.1.x and 7.5.x

When uninstalling, the MQ Explorer needs to run with Windows® administrator privileges. Select 'WebSphere MQ Explorer' from the 'IBM WebSphere MQ' folder in the Windows® start menu. Press right-mouse button and choose the option to 'Run as administrator'.

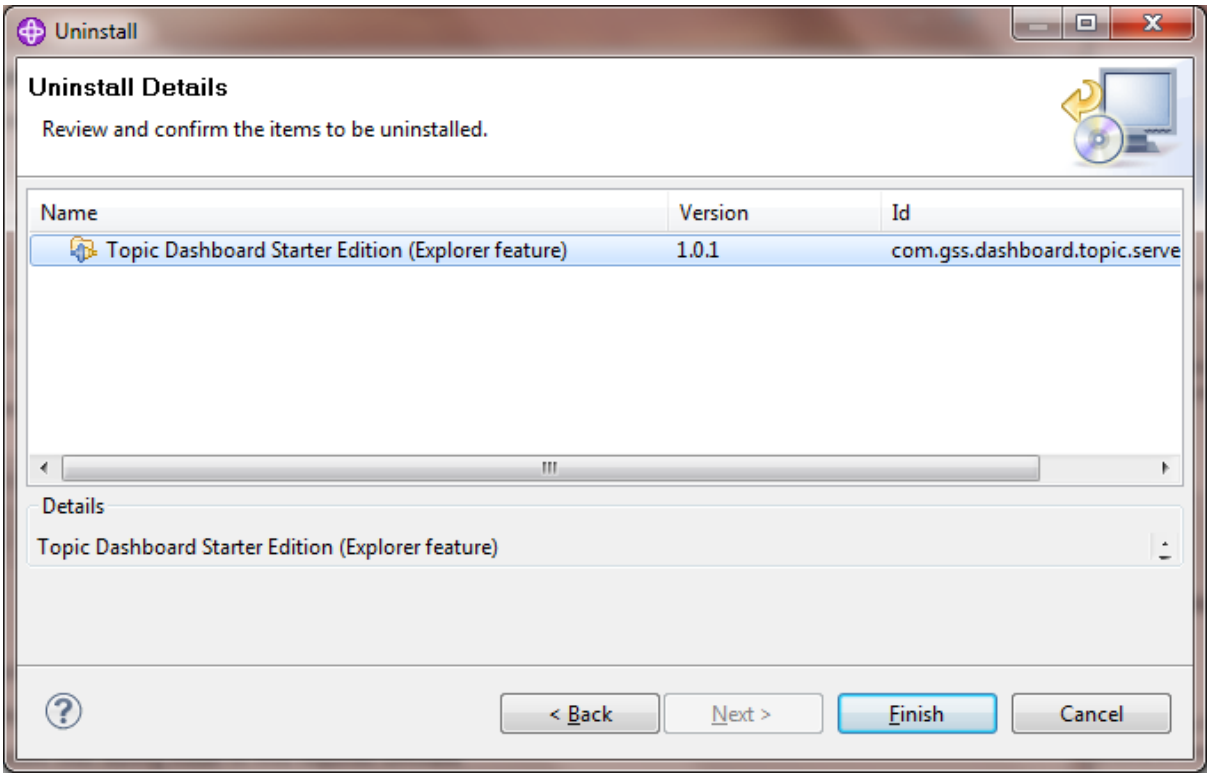
Select the 'Help → Install New Software...' menu item.



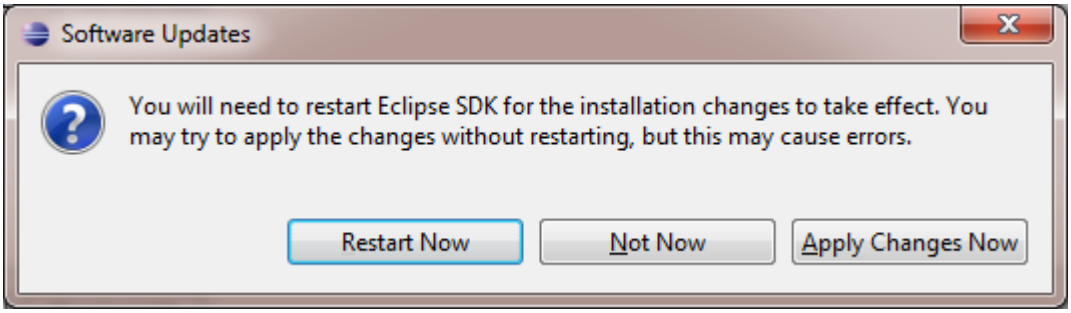
1. Press the link in 'What is already installed?'



2. Select the GSS Topic Dashboard (Explorer feature).
3. Press the 'Uninstall...' button.



4. Press the 'Finish' button to uninstall or Cancel to stop uninstall.

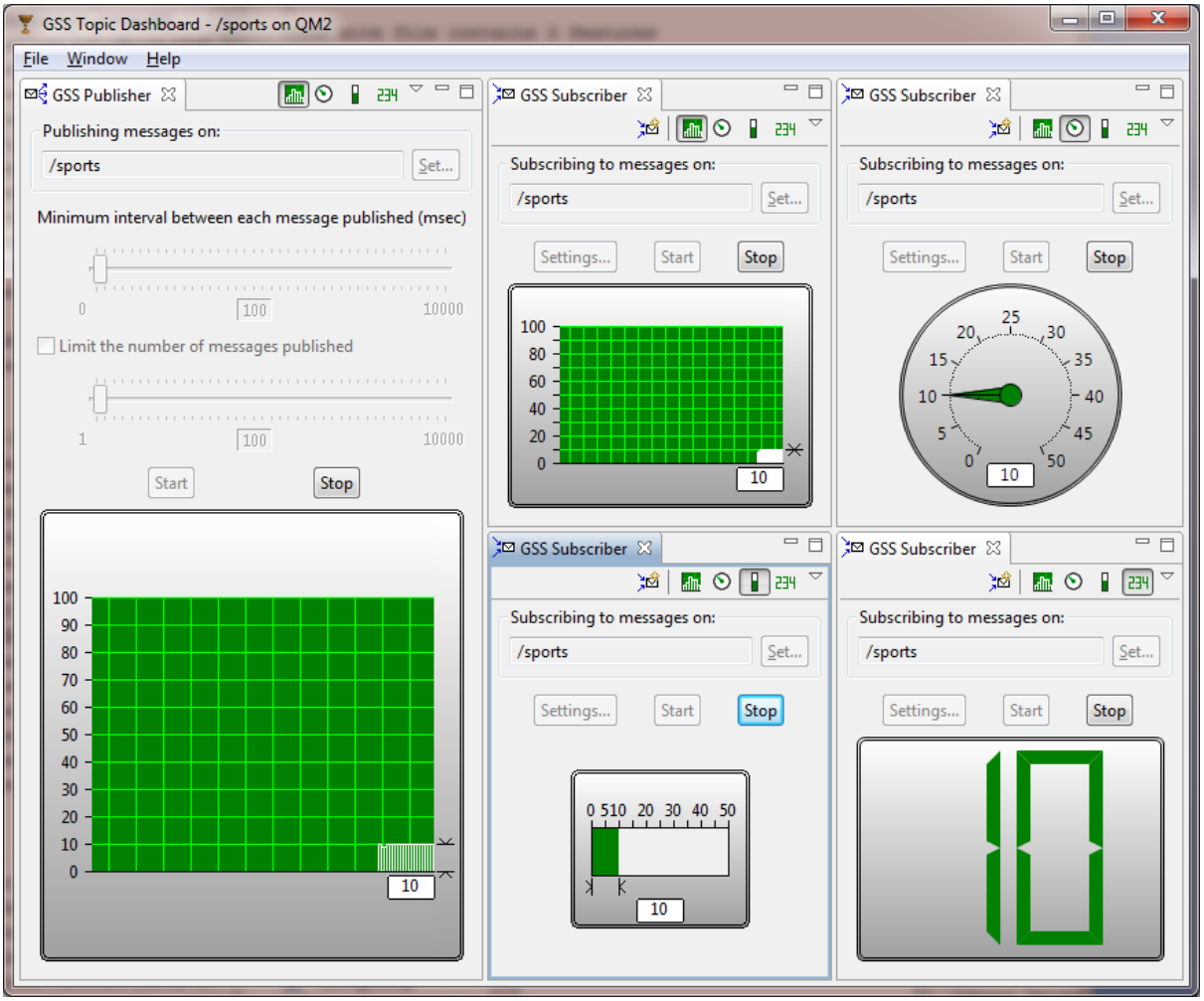

Software Updates
You will need to restart Eclipse SDK for the installation changes to take effect. You may try to apply the changes without restarting, but this may cause errors.
Restart Now
Not Now
Apply Changes Now

5. Press the 'Restart Now' button to restart the MQ Explorer.

Note uninstalling a feature from Eclipse™ does not remove the jar files from the plugin sub-directory that make up the feature and it is recommended these files are not deleted.

Starting GSS Topic Dashboard

Open the Topics content page on the MQ Explorer and select a topic. Press the right mouse button to show a context menu and select 'GSS Dashboard...'. This will open the GSS Topic Dashboard in a new window.



Using GSS Topic Dashboard

Initially the GSS Topic Dashboard contains four views, one to publish (PUB) messages on the selected topic and four to consume (GET) publications on the same topic.

Each view has a default graphical representation of the action and this can easily be changed by selecting a different icon on the view tool bar or view menu. Closing a view after the 'Start' button has been pressed will also stop the current activity.

The publisher and subscribers in the same Dashboard share the same connection to the queue manager. The subscriber does not perform a get-with-wait as this will stop other activity on the connection. Each subscriber will keep consuming publications until there are no more to consume and then it will wait (see Settings dialog below for setting the wait interval).

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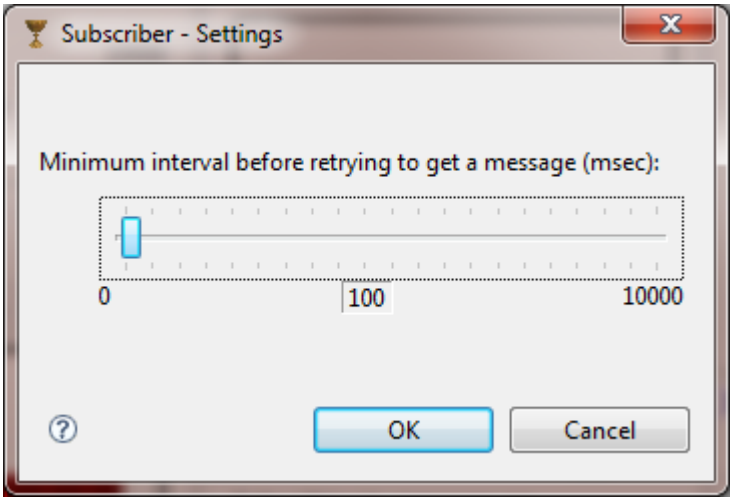
The action of publishing messages have default values and can be controlled by using the sliders on the publisher view, changing the time interval between each action and limiting the number of publications.

Each subscriber view can change the default topic string and also launch another subscriber view.

Changing Settings

The 'Settings...' button on the subscriber view show the following dialog. This can be used to change the interval before trying to get the next publication.

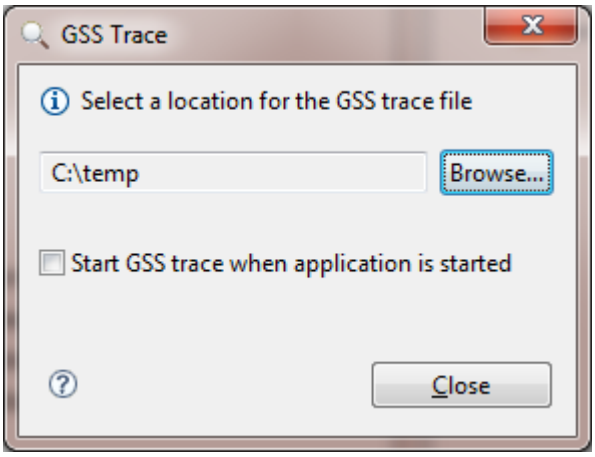


Menus

The GSS Topic Dashboard menu bar has 3 main menus, File, Window and Help.

File → GSS trace → Options...

This menu item will be enabled if there is no location defined for the GSS trace file or GSS trace has not been started. A dialog is shown to define the location for the GSS trace file and to choose whether to start GSS trace the next time the GSS Topic Dashboard is started. Note that GSS trace should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.



File → GSS trace → Start

This menu item will be enabled if a location has been defined for the GSS trace file and GSS trace has not been started. Note that GSS trace should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.

File → GSS trace → Stop

This menu item will be enabled if GSS trace has been started. Note that GSS trace should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.

Window → Show View → GSS Publisher

This menu item will give focus to the GSS Publisher view. If the view is closed, then it will be opened.

Window → Show View → GSS Subscriber

This menu item will give focus to the GSS Subscriber view. If the view is closed, then it will be opened.

Window → Show View → Error Log

This menu item will give focus to the Eclipse™ Error Log view. If the view is closed, then it will be opened. Note this view should only be used under the guidance of Grail Software Solutions to help diagnose any problems.

Window → Reset Perspective

This menu item will reset the perspective back to its original state, showing the GSS Publisher view and GSS Subscriber views in their default locations. Any other opened views will be closed.

Window → Navigation → Show View Menu

This menu item will open the view menu for the view that currently has focus.

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Window → Navigation → Maximize Active View or Editor
This menu item will maximize the view that currently has focus.

Window → Navigation → Minimize Active View or Editor
This menu item will minimize the view that currently has focus.

Window → Navigation → Next View
This menu item will give focus to the next view from that which currently has focus.

Window → Navigation → Previous View
This menu item will give focus to the previous view from that which currently has focus.

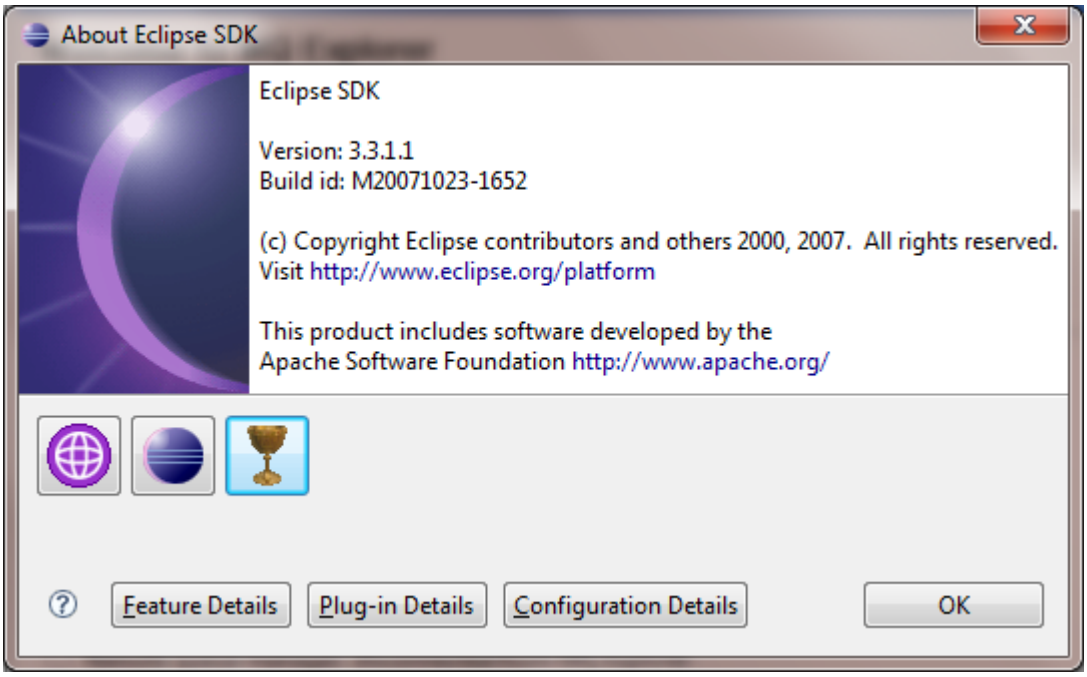
Help → Help Contents
This menu item will open the Eclipse™ help Infocenter.

Help → Search
This menu item will open the Eclipse™ help tray view, with a search field.

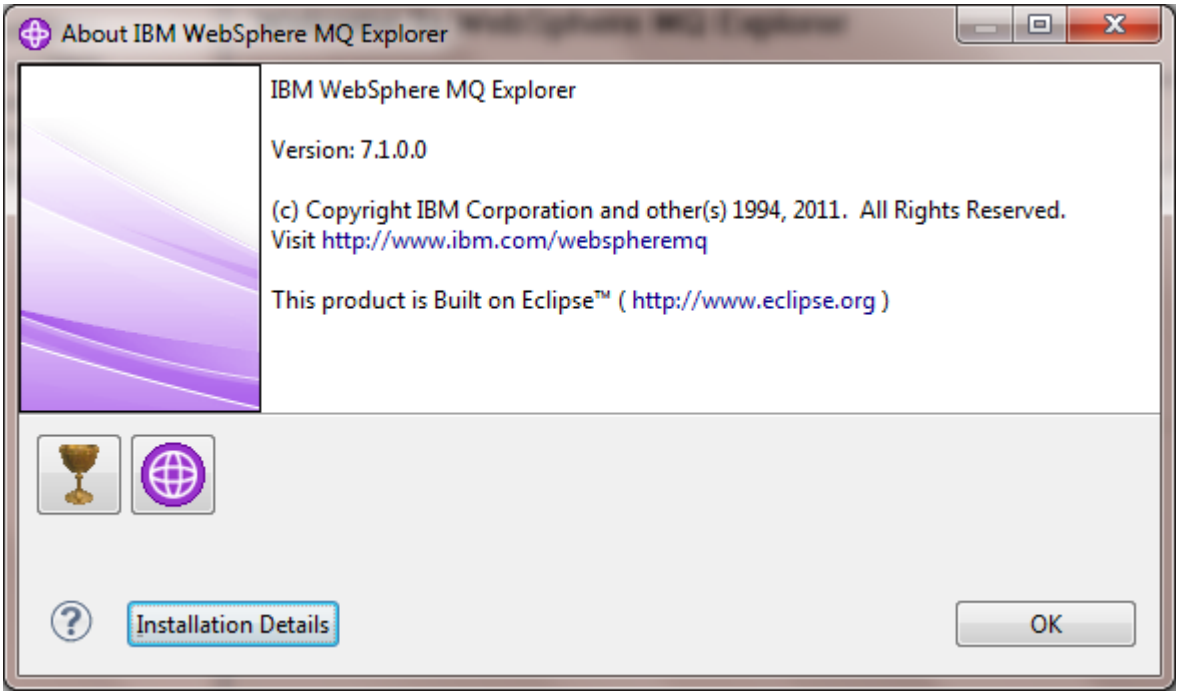
Help → Dynamic Help
This menu item will open the Eclipse™ help tray and show the online help for the currently selected view.

Help → Contact us
This menu item will open the system default browser and show the GSS Contact Us web page.

Help → About GSS Topic Dashboard
This menu item displays a dialog providing information about the MQ Explorer and the GSS Topic Dashboard. The appearance of this dialog can vary with the version of MQ Explorer installed, for example on MQ Explorer 7.0.1.8 it looks like this:



and on MQ Explorer 7.1.0.0 it looks like this


About IBM WebSphere MQ Explorer
IBM WebSphere MQ Explorer
Version: 7.1.0.0
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Visit http://www.ibm.com/webspheremq
This product is Built on Eclipse™ (http://www.eclipse.org)
Installation Details
OK

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